THE C4 NEWSLETTER

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THE BRASHER DOUBLOON (YALE-PARMALEE)

Featured in this issue:

- C4 Convention Notes
- Part II – Machin's Mills
- Connecticut "Bungtowns"
- New New Jersey Variety?
- Brasher Doubloon
- New Haven History
- Auction Report
- Rarity by Grade of Early Coppers

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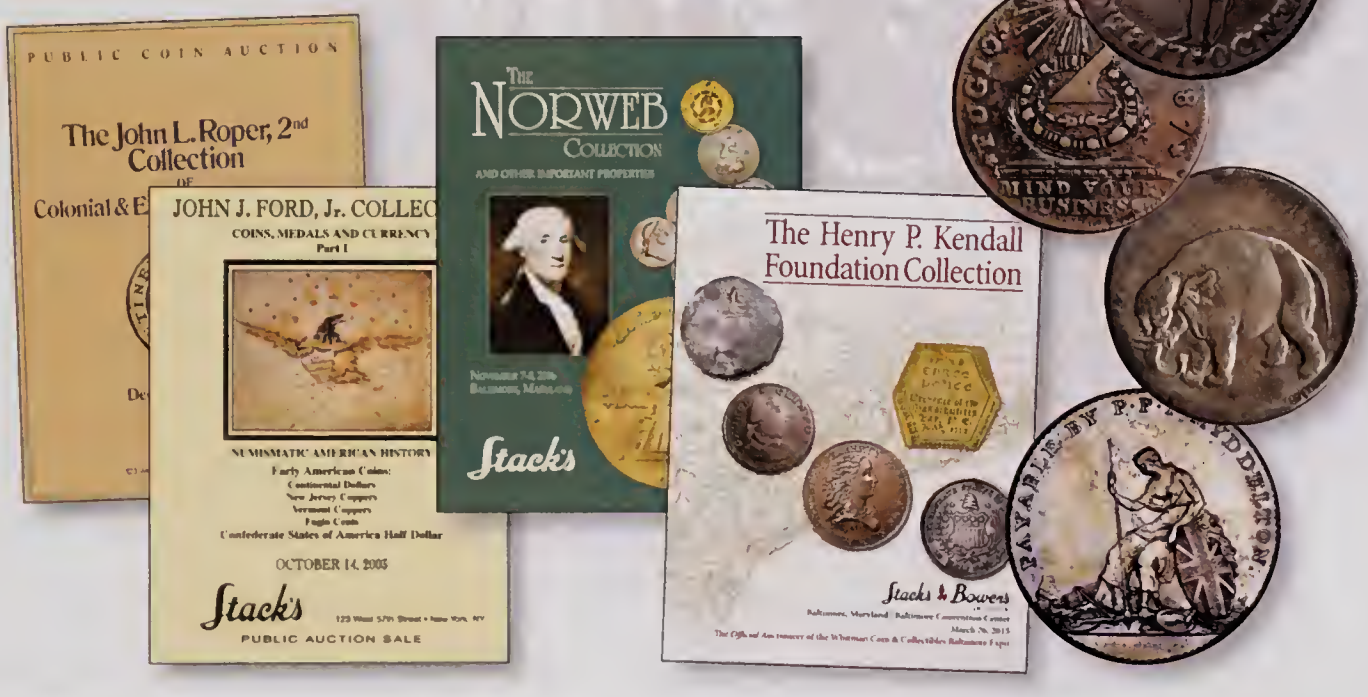

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The Colonial Coin Collectors Club, Inc.

Web address: www.colonialcoins.org

C4 National Officers:

President — Jim Rosen
9 Seminole Way
Bloomfield, CT 06002
860-242-1330 (h) 860-670-6448 (c)
jprosen1@comcast.net

Secretary: — Frank Steimle
2200 Appleby Drive
Wanamassa, NJ 07712
fsteimle@aol.com

Vice-President — Jack Howes
19967 East Doyle
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236
jackhowes@yahoo.com

Past-President: — Ray Williams
924 Norway Ave.
Trenton, NJ 08629
609-587-5929 (until 11pm)
njraywms@optonline.net

Treasurer: — Charlie Rohrer
P.O. Box 25
Mountville, PA 17554
RohrerC@cadmus.com

C4 Regional Vice Presidents:

Region 1 (CT, NJ, Quebec, Canadian Maritimes)
Jim Glickman
24 Coulton Park
Needham, MA 02492
781-449-1645
jamesglickman1@gmail.com

Region 2 (MA, VT, ME, NH, RI)
Mike Wierzba
P.O. Box 301
Rockland, MA 02370
339-469-1556
mike@nerarities.com

Region 3 (NY, MD, DE)
Dr. David Menchell
P.O. Box 656832
Fresh Meadows, NY 11365
dmenchell@aol.com

Region 4 (TN, VA, WV, DC, PA)
Stan Stephens
1469 Fenwick St.
Star City, WV 26505
sstephens@hsc.wvu.edu

Region 5 (FL, AR, NC, SC, GA, AL, MS, KY, LA, PR)
Gregory Field
PO Box 11961
Charlotte, NC 28220
704-293-4426
gregory@carolina.rr.com

Region 6 (OH, IN, IL, Ontario, Manitoba)
Louis Jordan
52087 Central Avenue
South Bend, IN 46637
574-277-5846
ljordan@nd.edu

Region 7 (MI, WI, IA, ND, SD, KS, NE, OK, TX)
Craig McDonald
P.O. Box 1231
Frisco, TX 75034
cmcdon0923@aol.com

Region 8 (NM, AZ, ID, WY, MO, MT, UT
UT, NV, Mexico, CA, HI)
Randy Clark
P.O. Box 20187
San Jose, CA 95160
auctori.connec@gmail.com

Region 9 (WA, OR, CO, MN, AK, BC, UK)
Buell Ish
P.O. Box 2522
Redmond, WA 98073
buell@vectrafitness.com

C4 Newsletter Editor:
Sydney F. Martin, Editor: sfmartin5@comcast.net; 215-348-9925
Associate Editor: Will Nipper, will.nipper1777@gmail.com

Articles and classified ads may be e-mailed to Syd; sent to him at ***P.O. Box 865, Doylestown, PA 18901****; or sent to Will at the indicated e-mail address. Authors submitting articles for possible publication are, by such submission, attesting that the material is original and/or properly cited.*

C4 Librarian:
Leo Shane
1130 Woods Lane, Warminster, PA 18974
Leo_j_shane@hotmail.com

Chair: C4 Public Relations Committee
Arnold Miniman
2730 Old Forest Drive, Johns Island, SC 29455
201-317-4199; ahminiman@gmail.com

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Membership questions, address changes, and dues should be sent to Charlie Rohrer at P.O. Box 25, Mountville, PA 17554. Dues are $30 regular (including 1st class mailing of the *Newsletter within the US*) and $40 (for 1st class mailing outside the US); $10 for junior members (under 18 residing in the US) and $15 (under 19 residing outside the US).

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE -- JANUARY 2016

(Jim Rosen)

{PLEASE PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THE INFORMATION IN BOLD}

It's December and I just realized that this is the last January President's Message that I will be writing. As some of you may know, I have decided not to run again for President, new blood is needed and one needs to know when to step down.

Our recent convention was, by any standards, a great success. We saw an exhibit by the Board of a complete variety set of all of the Coppers of the Republic of Vermont (Vermont did not enter the "United States" until 1791), totaling 40 varieties, which includes the 2 Ryder 5 variants –struck and cast. This was the first time in history that all of the different varieties of the coins of the Republic of Vermont were on display publically at one time, a truly historic event. We also had a wonderfully informative exhibit by our own C4 Librarian, Leo Shane – a neat exhibit on coins that circulated in Colonial American…and beyond. And while I am talking about Leo Shane, the C4 Lending Library, under his long-term guidance, was the E-Sylum's website of the week a few weeks ago. Leo has done a fantastic job with our Lending Library and it is nice to see the recognition that he and the library rightfully deserve. To take a look into what we have, go to our website, click under "Resources" and then click "Lending Library." You will be amazed with our inventory. Thanks Leo! Getting back to the exhibits, David Menchell, Chairman of the Publications Committee and a Regional VP, had yet one more exhibit in his pocket, his 21st consecutive, non-repetitive exhibit, which I think just might put him into the Guinness *Book of World Records* for exhibits. For this wonderful accomplishment, he received a 2015 C4 Exhibit Award.

Our Educational Program this year was top-rate, planned and guided under the leadership of Jeff Lipsky, our Education Chairman. Mike Shutty gave an excellent overview of Spanish and Spanish Colonial Coins that circulated in Pre-Federal and Federal America. He also gave a great introduction into the realm of Cobs. Our second speaker of the evening was Kent Ponterio who, despite a computer snafu, gave an extremely informative presentation on Pillar and Portrait Spanish and Spanish Colonial coinage. Ray Williams again did a fabulous job on the AV. I would not be complete without complimenting Dennis Wierzba, our Bourse Chairman, on his consummate organization of the whole evening's activities as well as organizing the dealer tables on the bourse floor.

After my many months of discussion with the President and Vice President of EAC (Early American Coppers), C4 and EAC have decided to form a relationship which will give each organization two conventions per year. C4 will host EAC in the fall at Baltimore and EAC will host C4 in the spring, wherever their convention is. This association will begin this April 2016 in Charlotte, NC. Please check the EAC website, www.eacs.org **for more details about the host hotel, the program, and the EAC auction. C4 will have a table at their convention with a small gathering area as well as study rooms. In addition, we will hold a board and business meeting and will**

be invited to their club auction and socials on Thursday and Friday nights. The Thursday night dinner is paid for by donations, either before or at the dinner and the Friday night reception costs approximately $50. Again please check their website for more details.

The C4 Board is very excited about this new association in that we hope this relationship will strengthen both organizations and will increase member attendance at our conventions. I realize that the Baltimore location might be a problem for many members and the time of the year might also hinder one from attending. So by having a traveling spring convention and a base Baltimore convention, I hope to see many new faces in the spring and new EAC members in the fall. The EAC Board, like the C4 Board, is looking forward to this affiliation with two conventions per year. As ones ages, we realize how important our friends are, and getting the chance to see them twice a year is a real life bonus.

I have just begun putting the finishing touches on our gathering area for Baltimore November 3-6, 2016, which, as mentioned, will have an EAC presence. Please mark your calendars! We hope to have educational programs that cross both disciplines thus making for a new and exciting educational program. And speaking about the educational program, at the ANA in Charlotte this April, C4's Will Nipper will be giving his popular talk "Coins and Tokens used in Early America."

Syd Martin's new book (his third) on French Coinage made specifically for the North American Colonies is out and being sold by Charlie Davis. You can order this book by going to Charlie's website, www.numisbook.com **For anyone interested in this subject, this is a must read. Syd has written a discerning and extraordinarily valuable book. Being exceptionally well researched and written makes this text the standard reference for the series.**

Our new website is up...many thanks go to the website committee, Mike Wierzba, Jim Glickman, Gregory Field, Stan Stephens and Ray Williams with thanks also to Jack Howes.

Please note the call for nominations in this issue of the newsletter. They need to be in Syd Martin's and/or Leo Shane's email no later than June 1, 2016, with final voting to be at Frank Steimle's email or regular mail box by September 30, 2016. All contact information for Syd, Leo, and Frank can be found in our *Newsletter*.

In closing, I hope to see many new faces in Charlotte at the spring EAC (6-10 April 2016). Please call the hotel ASAP to reserve your room. Again, this information can be found on the EAC's website, www.eacs.org and soon on our own. I am very excited about this new venture and look forward to many new friendships and educational opportunities. Hope you all had a happy New Year and continue to enjoy this wonderful hobby of coin and currency collecting.

THE COINAGE OF MACHIN'S MILLS

(Jack Howes)

This second installment of "The Coinage of Machin's Mills" will examine the collecting history of what we now call Machin's Mills contemporary counterfeit coppers – how it started and evolved. Unfortunately there were no eyewitnesses who left detailed records of who engraved the dies, how many different ones there were, or how much copper was struck at Machin's Mills. Moreover, it is quite likely that some (maybe even a lot) of what are considered Machin's Mills varieties may have been struck before the partnership was actually up and operating at Newburgh, probably in New York City.

It began with what Sylvester Crosby got from Charles Ira Bushnell's notebook that has since vanished. Bushnell wrote, in part, "…The coins were made by James F. Atlee.[1] Many of them bore the obverse 'GEORGIUS III.' And rev. 'INDE ET LIB.' Others bore the figure of a plow on one side."[2] Crosby provided no indication of where Bushnell got this information or when – probably because Bushnell had not included that in his notebook.

Figure C1: VT Landscape & NJ Camel Head.

The part about the plow has caused considerable discussion over the years. Crosby says that it was supposed the coins with a plow were some of the Landscape Vermont coppers. Another theory that seems more plausible to me is that this referred to New Jersey coppers. The Vermont landscapes that have a small plow were struck in 1785 before Machin's Mills was likely operating. Also the style of all the varieties of Vermont Landscapes is similar, as is the poor quality planchets used to strike them and thus not likely to have been a Machin's Mills product. There definitely were New Jersey coppers struck outside of New Jersey during 1788, which more closely matches the time period that Machin's Mills operated. But what variety of New Jersey copper could this be? The Camel Heads are most often suggested as they were extensively overstruck and often over products of Machin's Mills [See Figure. C1.].

---

[1] One of the Machin's Mills partners and the one named to execute the minting operations.
[2] Crosby, p. 191.

Crosby then discusses two varieties that are similar to what Bushnell described. Interestingly in the quote from Bushnell, Crosby transcribes "GEORGIUS III." with a capital U and stop only after III. However, on the following page when discussing coins like this, Crosby uses "GEORGIVS III." He points to two varieties, one commonly known today as the RR [Ryder-Richardson] 31 and the other, Miller 101-D.[3] The first is considered a Vermont variety in addition to a Machin's variety, thus a variety designation from two series. The second is designated as a Connecticut variety and in addition a Machins variety. Really these are both mules, i.e., they combine an obverse die from one family with a reverse die from another [See Figure C2.]. Crosby wrote the following on his thinking about these British style counterfeits and mules,

> *It is probable, judging from the facts just noted, that many pieces now classed as Connecticut coins, are counterfeits from this mint; and it is not unlikely that the VERMON AUCTORI with reverse BRITANNIA • as well as many of the counterfeit halfpence of George III., formed part of the 'hardware' manufactured here.*

Figure C2. First two varieties linked to Machin's Mills: Ryder Richardson 31 (V.22-88VT) and Miller 1788 101-D (V.13-88CT).

[3] Vlack 22-88VT and 13-88CT using the scheme from Robert Vlack's 1974 plates. The Vlack variety designations will be reviewed in detail later in this article.

Crosby also quotes briefly from both Eager [*History of Newburgh*] and Simms [*History of Schoharie County*]. He skips the biographical information from Simms, some of which has been shown to be in error (I wonder if Crosby thought the same?) and only uses some of what Eager wrote. The part he does quote from Simms is the bit about, "striking only about 1000 pounds of copper in 1789."[4] Based on the number of varieties and the rarity or commonness of each, a half ton of copper seems low by at least an order of magnitude (factor of 10) and maybe as much as two orders (factor of 100) unless the only varieties struck at Machin's Mills were the two mentioned above. More likely the half ton was incomplete data or only a partial record of what was used. We know this number cannot be the total amount of copper struck because 1000 pounds, which equals 7,000,000 grains, is equivalent to striking just over 60,000 coins at the average weight of a Machin's variety (about 110-115 grains). With a typical 1% survival rate that means there would be only about 600 examples extant. That number is low by one or two orders of magnitude i.e., there are at the very least 6,000 examples in collectors hands and perhaps as many as 60,000. And this is just an estimate of the numbers for British style coppers. It does not include any of the large number of Vermonts or Connecticut coppers that Machin likely struck.

While Crosby was the first to designate coins likely to have been struck at Machin's Mills, Montroville Wilson Dickeson in his *American Numismatic Manual* [1859, 60,64] describes two varieties that have come to be included in the list of those associated with Machin's Mills. But he did not connect them with Machin. The first of the two was what he nicknamed the "Tory Copper" or Geo. III, Immune Columbia mule.[5] The second of the two was described in the Appendix of the 1860 edition, as the very rare 1787 GEORGIVS III. REX., INDE∗ET LIB∗[6] of which there are still only four known examples.

The next evolution in this story belongs to C. Wyllys Betts who was a serious researcher and critical thinker. He studied these issues and gave an address to the American Numismatic and Archaeological Society [previous name of the American Numismatic Society] in 1886. They in turn turned the talk into a published article,[7] but published separately from their journal. The article was and is rare and thus was probably little known but is a remarkable work to this day. The thesis of Betts research was to show [prove] that many British style contemporary counterfeits were actually manufactured in America, and even though the title given to the article would indicate he was pointing at mints in Vermont and Connecticut as the source, there was only one location under consideration and that was Machin's Mills, outside Newburgh, New York in Ulster County. Perhaps the ANS supplied the title rather than Betts!

---

[4] Crosby, p. 202.

[5] which eventually received a Vlack designation of V15-85NY on the 1974 plates.

[6] which eventually received the Vlack designation of V13-87CT.

[7] Betts, C. Wyllys. "Counterfeit Halfpence Current in the American Colonies, and their Issue from the Mints of Connecticut and Vermont," 1886.

Betts most important contribution is an analytical method of deciding how closely related individual die varieties are to one another.[8] Betts styled this methodology as the character of the evidence.[9] Betts wrote the following:

> *Before proceeding to establish the connection of these coins with those of Vermont and Connecticut, I will say a word regarding the character of the evidence.*
>
> *The first class of testimony to unity of minting is found in the recurrence of the same obverse with various reverses, or vice versa. It scarcely requires assertion, and will at once be admitted, that where two dissimilar obverse dies are found combined with the same reverse, they both must have proceeded from the same mint.*
>
> *The second kind of testimony consists of unusual forms of letters appearing upon different coins, showing that the same punches were used in sinking the dies.*
>
> *The third and scarcely less trustworthy class of evidence is close similarity of execution, especially when exhibiting marked peculiarities not found in other coins of the same character.*

Betts may have intended the order to imply the strength of the evidence with die links first kind is pretty clearly the strongest type of evidence. The second (punch linkage) and the third (style linkage) are somewhat more problematic in terms of which is a stronger or better sort of evidence. There have been cases where a linkage was claimed that had only one of these types e.g., the Broken A punch on some New Jersey coppers, which turned out to be a weak and finally a faulty argument. To make a strong case you really need all three types of evidence operating. And that is what Betts showed.

Although not illustrated with photographic plates, Betts produced very accurate and distinctive wood cuts to show the various varieties he was discussing. [See Figure C3.] Some of these woodcuts are likely detailed enough to identify individual coins, if they still exist. Since Betts used the Yale University collection as the main source for this study, some of these examples may still be in the drawers in New Haven, Connecticut!

---

[8] Although I am unaware of specific references, it is likely that other numismatic authors, studying ancient numismatics have published prior papers on die linkage for establishing minting locations. While Crosby discussed punch linkage [page 313], I believe Betts is the first to publish this particular methodology.

[9] At a much later time [over a 100 years later] Byron Weston gave this methodology the name Link Fingerprint.

Obverse of Counterfeit Half Pence.

No. 5.—1778.

No. 6.—1787.

No. 13.

1778 (second variety, Reverse No. 20).

No. 14.

1788 (Reverse No. 22).

Varieties on this plate -- Vlack Ids.

Obverses
No.5 is V.13
No.6 is V.19
No.13 is V.12
No.14 is V.23

Reverses
No.18 is 87C EDS
No.20 is 78B
No.22 is 88A

No. 18.

Before the Die was worn out.

No. 20.

(With Obv. 5 and 13.)

No. 22.

(With Obv. No. 14.)

Figure C3. Woodcuts of British style coppers by Betts that he believed were struck by Machin's Mills.

Using this analysis method, Betts described fourteen (14) different varieties and plated four (4) of those that he attributed to Machin's Mills. A couple of these are somewhat of a stretch to attribute to Betts so I have assigned them jointly to Betts and Vlack – those being V5-72A and 6-72A. Betts indicates that the collection he was studying had three 1772s that were counterfeits, one with Us instead of Vs which is clearly the V.7-72B and the other two 72s are likely the 5-72A and 6-72A. [See Table C1, below.]

Betts also describes and plates a number of Connecticut varieties that by die linkages, punch, and style he also attributes to Machin's Mills. This article is not going to go into any detail other than noting that I concur that most of the 1788s, as well as a few of the 1786s and 1787s were very likely struck at Machin's Mills.

Betts further describes and plates a couple of very crude varieties, one a CT, one a Geo. III type and one a mule.[10] These were on Vlack's 1974 plates and were given

[10] Betts woodcuts 7 & 8. These were eventually plated by Vlack and assigned names 16-86A and CT-86A.

variety identifications but they have never been associated with Machins' Mills. Betts just indicates he believes the connection to a Connecticut state copper type proves they were made in the states.

Betts Page Paragraph	Wood Cut	Vlack Id
16, 1		1-47A
3, 2		2-71A
2, 5		5-72A ?
2, 5		6-72A ?
2, 5		7-72B
3, 3		11-78A
3, 3	13, 20	12-78B
3, 3	5, 20	13-78B
5, 1		17-87A
5, 1		17-87B
5, 1		18-87C
5, 1	6, 18	19-87C
5, 1		21-87D
5, 2	14, 22	23-88A

Table C1. Machin's Mills varieties identified by C. Wyllys Betts in 1886.

After Betts, it is over 50 years before Machin's Mills is mentioned again.[11] Howard Kurth in two short 1942 *Numismatist* articles discusses the similarity of Vermont and Connecticut state coinages to some British style counterfeit coppers but appears not to have been familiar with Betts' paper. Kurth's articles are focused mainly on the Vlack 87C reverse die that in its later state was used to strike the very common RR-13, the Vermont Britannia, that he points out Crosby assigned to Machin's Mills. He does not plate any coins. Kurth suggests that the 87C was used in an earlier state with a Geo. III obverse but does not know of such a coin which Betts had shown in his 1886 paper. In his second article, Kurth indicates that indeed such a coin exists, but does not plate it or describe it in enough detail to identify, probably a 19-87C, the most common of this group.

A few years later John Richardson, with an introduction by Kurth, in an important 1947 Numismatist article describing additional Vermont varieties discovered since Ryder (1920), plates one of the British style counterfeits, Betts No. 6, actually (Vlack 19-87C). By this point Richardson/Kurth had found the Betts paper but added nothing to what Betts described.

[11] At least as far as I have found. I am interested in any references between Betts and Richardson/Kurth especially from auction catalogues.

In 1959, Eric Newman, the well-known numismatic writer/researcher from St. Louis, makes the first addition to the Machin's Mills family since Betts' research.[12] Newman's thesis in this article was that Vermont coppers had British-like symbols (head, effigy and shield decoration) because they shared device punches with imitation coppers minted at Machin's Mills and engraved by James F. Atlee, a partner in the Machin's Mills operation. He finds two coins that inter link with Vermonts that prove his thesis. The main coin is the 1776 small date, eventually given a variety designation of 9-76B, and a 1771 imitation (his term, contemporary counterfeit would be used today) that has become known as the Vlack 2-71A [See Figure C4.]. Newman uses all three of Betts' evidence types – punch links, style links, and die links.

The next addition to the Machin's Mills family was due to Robert A. Vlack. In 1964 he authored a slender volume on numismatics,[13] where he identified 16 varieties of what he labeled as the George III issues of Machin's Mills. Four of the varieties had not been previously singled out as products of Machin's Mills, his numbers 2-5.[14] In the 1964 edition there are no plates but a second edition the next year, expanded the work and added many plated examples from the various colonial series. Of the George III varieties, all that were identified were plated. But the only variety identification aid was his number of the types from 1-16. Vlack noted in the introduction that this was really a book about type collecting and that he was not trying to identify all varieties of each type.

Since the beginning of colonial era numismatic writing and research, many different attempts have been made to identify varieties of a particular series. The methods employed fall into basically two types. The first is the arbitrary numbering of varieties without regard to underlying dies used. Dickeson arbitrarily assigned numbers to each series and in some cases to each year of a series, his numbering of the New Jersey coppers are a good example of this type of naming. The second method was to assign some kind of name for each obverse and reverse die, typically a single number for the obverse and a letter for the reverse with considerable variation on the details. Crosby, for example, employed both methods and used a variation on die naming where each die name represented more than one die. Sometimes these naming schemes stuck, i.e., were used in catalogues and by other authors. Sometimes not. Naming schemes of the second sort are often thought superior as you clearly see the die linkages that are hidden if an arbitrary naming scheme is employed. But in several cases the arbitrary naming scheme is the one that has stuck e.g., the Ryder (or Richardson-Ryder) naming of Vermont varieties and the Noe numbers for Massachusetts silver.

---

[12] Newman, Eric. "A Recently Discovered Coin Solves a Vermont Numismatic Enigma." *American Numismatic Society Centennial Publication*, 1958, pages 531-42.

[13] Vlack, Robert A., Early American Coins, Windsor Research Publications, New York, 1964-5.

[14] 3-71B, 6-72A, 3-74A and 8-74A respectively using the naming scheme from the 1974 plates discussed later.

One factor that definitely comes into play is whether the naming method is capable of identifying all the varieties. Crosby's die varieties were often used for Massachusetts silver but did not uniquely identify an example, whereas Noes arbitrary names did.[15] For both Massachusetts silver and Vermont coppers a "better" die variety scheme was also published, much later in both cases, that seems as if it should have caught on but did not – for the Vermonts, Bressett in 1976, Salmon for Massachusetts silver in 2012. In time perhaps both of these will become the go to names. I think it is an issue of change; people in general don't like change.[16] In the case of the Machin's Mills series, prior to Vlack only the Betts paper had even attempted a list of varieties or types. The Betts numbers were never used in either catalogues or other papers to refer to specific varieties to the best of my searching.

As seen in his book, Vlack did make a list by date but further put together a set of plates (also in 1964) that included all the varieties he considered as part of this series: he labeled the plate the New York George III contemporary counterfeit halfpence engraved by James F. Atlee and struck at Machin's Mills. On these plates Vlack did not number the varieties as he had in his book but assigned names to dies – a number for obverse dies and a letter for reverse dies. He used a lower case script for the obverse numbers and reverse letters which was hard to read. These plates had little distribution and this naming scheme is used in only one catalogue that I can identify – the 1972 A-Mark FPL sale that included the Ted Craige Machin's collection. The plates had seven additional varieties over and above what had been identified by Crosby/Betts. One was the 1747 George II type. It is unknown why Vlack did not include it in his book. And one was a 1777 issue that Vlack believed was punch linked and style linked but when higher grade examples surfaced was shown not to be part of the series. The others he added were either die linked, punch linked and/or style linked.

Vlack was also the source for the next step in the development [expansion] of this series when he published a new set of plates in 1974. Oddly, he changed the variety naming convention on these plates (2) to a completely different variant. I was never able to discuss why he did this with Vlack in person but you can see by listing the dies known in 1974 by year that you get exactly the numbering Vlack used with the exceptions of obverse dies considered part of other series, V.VT and V.CT [See Table C2.]. During a visit with Eric Newman in 2011, Eric indicated to me that it was at least in part a suggestion from him as he thought it would be a superior method for identifying examples in this series. In any case the 1974 plates had a number for the obverse and a year for the reverse followed by a letter indicating variety within year e.g., 74A or 87C. This scheme became widely used and is likely to be the naming convention forever associated with this series. It also accommodated new reverse die discoveries nicely -- just add the year and the next letter.

---

[15] More or less. Breen and other authors extended Noe a bit.

[16] Crosby names for only one series, Nova Constellatios, have persisted. Probably because the names assigned uniquely identified all the varieties.

The method is not quite as nice for new obverse dies as will be seen. Vlack again added new varieties, eight (8) varieties[17] that had not been on the 1964 plates. Some of these additions are easy to explain: the V.7 obverse was found combined with a 74A reverse that was already part of the series. Die linkages are automatically in. As was the 20-87C. The 21-II-87D-II is a strange case. The naming is bizarre, I have no idea why he did not just call it the 21-87D. Perhaps because he also found a late die state in this same period. The other additions are the ones that are more difficult to explain. The 16-86A and CT-86A were described and plated by Betts but not attributed to Machin's Mills. The 14-84A appears not to have been noticed by Betts. Batty was the first to fully describe it in his work on evasion tokens.[18] If we take the title on the plates literally, the obvious answer is that Vlack considered at least some of these additions were American made just not by Machin's Mills which is a pretty good reason and one that I accept.

1-47A	**9-76B**	**19-87C**
2-71A	**10-77A**	**20-87C**
3-71B	**11-78A**	**21-87C**
4-71C	**12-78B**	VT-87C
5-72A	**13-78B**	21-II-87D-II
6-72A	**14-84A**	21-I-87D-I
7-72B	**15-85NY**	13-87CT
3-74A	**16-86A**	13-88CT
7-74A	CT-86A	**22-88VT**
8-74A	**17-87A**	**23-88A**
4-75A	17-87B	
6-76A	**18-87C**	

Table C2. List of varieties plated by Vlack in 1974 ordered by year on the dies. Bolded varieties are the first occurrence of an obverse die and note that the numbering is exactly numeric order of new dies.

Gary Trudgen, through a series of articles in *The Colonial Newsletter* (*CNL*),[19] further explored this series. In one paper he argues for three groups based on punches and style. The first of these groups, he links to James F. Atlee probably working in the New York City area before the formation of Machin's Mills partnerships. The second of these groups he linked to Ephraim Brasher / John Bailey in NYC. He believes that James F. Atlee engraved all three groups but that only the third group was actually struck at Machin's Mills, at least in part to rationalize the claim that no more that a thousand pounds of copper was actually struck at Machin's Mills.[20] He gave the whole family a name of Atlee – Machins contemporary counterfeits.

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[17] 4-71C, 4-75A, 7-74A, 7-72B (hinted at by Betts), 14-84A, 16-86A, CT-86A, 20-87C and 21.I-87D.I.
[18] Batty
[19] Trudgen, Gary, "James Atlee's Imitation British Halfpence," *CNL*, Vol.27, No.1, March 1987.
[20] 1000 pounds reference.

One further point is that Trudgen's group two is also linked via punches and style to varieties of New York patterns/pieces – specifically, the Nova Eboracs, the Brasher doubloons, and the Excelsior/Eagle patterns, including the Clinton Cent. [See Figure C6.]. Clinton is closely associated with Thomas Machin and, I believe, like Trudgen, that these patterns were engraved by the same hand. However, I think they were done under the direction of Thomas Machin during the period he was trying to convince the New York state politicians to grant him a coining patent. Trudgen also linked group two to the Running Fox New Jersey Coppers. I think this is harder to see but I find that the dates and some of the lettering is very similar if not the same punches. Thus, I do believe that Bailey was definitely involved in the running fox New Jersey coppers, I am just not totally sure that James Atlee did the engraving. [See Figure C7 for a comparison.]

The family has continued to evolve with an occasional new die discovery. [See Table C3.] All except the V.24-72C have been a new obverse or reverse die that combined with a die already part of the series.

Howes, in a separate paper, showed that the Vlack 5 and 8 dies were the same. Bowers (p. 224) mistakenly collapsed the two varieties into one when one is a significantly different and a distinct die state that had been collected as such for many years. This series needs an extension to the naming scheme that accounts for die states, preferably simply. There are other instances in this series where the naming convention was extended to encompass a die state, the 21-II – 87D-II being the prime example. This was clumsy but worse not indicative of a later die state, the 21-II being the initial state and the 21-I the later state. I am suggesting what I believe is simple and an improvement that increases consistency. Using this enhancement, later die states will be named as follows: For obverse dies, [.1-n] will be progressively later die states. For reverse dies [.a-z] will indicate the same. Thus the 21-I-87D-I will become 21.1-87D.1 and the 21-II -87D-II will be simply 21-87D.

The 5 versus 8 distinction will be 5-72A, 5-74A (very rare), and 5.1-74A (fairly common, previously 8-74A). This method can be used for other die states as they are documented. I would not expect to see more than one or two die states for a variety. This extension should be used only for major die state changes. [See Figure C5.]

Figure C4. Newman's 1959 additions. Eventually labeled by Vlack as 9-76B, the 76 small date [top] and 2-71A [bottom].

Figure C5. Obverse dies 5 on the left compared with 5.1 (previously 8) on the right.

Figure C6. Comparison of Nova Eborac, V.17-87B [group two] and Clinton Cent.

Figure C7. Comparison of New Jersey running fox with two varieties from Trudgen's group two – V.1-47A and V. 17-87A.

Table C3.

Variety	AKA	Year	Person	Comments
1-47A		1886	Betts, Vlack	Both names means Betts probably but Vlack was first to definitively identify i.e. plate
2-71A		1886	Betts	
3-71B		1886	Betts	
3-74A		1964	Vlack	
4-75A		1974	Vlack	
4-71C		ca. 1964	August	
4-71D		1990	Stiemle	CNL Oct 1990
5-72A		1886	Betts, Vlack	
5-74A		2006	Howes	
6-72A		1886	Betts, Vlack	
6-76A		1974	Vlack	
7-72B		1886	Betts	
7-74A		1974	Vlack	
5.1-74A	8-74A	1964	Vlack	
9-76B		1959	Newman	
9-87NY		1964	Vlack	Really?
11-78A		1886	Betts	
12-78B		1886	Betts	
13-78B		1886	Betts	
13-78C		2008	Siefrit	
13-87CT	M.101-G.2	1860	Dickeson	
13-88CT	M.101-D	1886	Betts	
15-85NY		1859	Dickeson	
17-87A		1886	Betts	
17-87B		1886	Betts	
17-87E		1977	Sonderman	
18-87C		1886	Betts	
19-87C		1886	Betts	
20-87C		ca. 1955	Vlack	
21-87C		ca. 1962	August	
21-87D		1886	Betts	
21.1-87D.1		1974	Vlack	
22-88VT	RR31	1873	Crosby	
23-87C		1988	Ringo	CNL Jun 1988
23-88A		1886	Betts	
24-72C		ca. 1980	August	
25-87C		2011	Howes	Unidentified variety appeared on eBay 9/3/2011, Described and assigned name in C4NL xxx, pg yyy
VT-87C	RR13	1873	Crosby	

Table C4. Varieties of contemporary counterfeit halfpence in the [Atlee] Machins family [with exceptions bolded and italicized] with rarity and CC updates:

Variety [Vlack]	Rarity	Rarity Howes	Sarrafian [96]	CC	Comments Howes
1-47A	R5	R5		45-25	EDS with well struck head much rarer
2-71A	R4	R4		25-15	Good color and surfaces - extremely rare
3-71B	R5	R5		55-25	
3-74A	R6-	R6		55-30	
4-75A	R4	R4		50-25	
4-71C	R7	R7+			
4-71D	R8	Unique			
5-72A	R6	R6		60-25	
5-74A	R7+				
6-72A	R6	R6+		45-25	
6-76A	R3	R4		55-25	High grade examples are extraordinarily rare
7-72B	R6+	R6+		45-25	
7-74A	R6-	R6		45-25	
5.1-74A	R4	R4		35-20	Die lapped, VLDS. Previously called 8-74A
9-76B	R6+	R7		60-20	
9-87NY	R7+	R8			
10-77A	R7+				Not from Machin's Mills
11-78A	R3	R3		63-45	
12-78B	R3	R3		55-35	
13-78B	R5	R5		55-35	
13-78C	R8				
13-87CT		R7+	R8		Miller 1787 52-G.2
13-88CT		R5-	R4	50-35	Miller 1788 101-D
14-84A	R5-	R6		50-25	Not from Machin's Mills, still likely American made
15-85NY		R6-	R6	45-35	Ceorcis III – Immune Columbia mule
16-86A	R8				Not from Machin's Mills
17-87A	R2	R2		55-45	
17-87B	R2	R2		60-35	
17-87E	R7+	R7+			
18-87C	R4	R4		63-45	
19-87C	R2	R2		55-50	
20-87C	R6+	R7		55-15	
21-87C	R6+	R7		40-12	
21-87D	R4	R4		60-45	
21.1-87D.1	R6	R6+		55-6	Called spread planchet
22-88VT		R4	R4	55-25	RR-31, reverse always much weaker than obverse
23-87C	R7	R7+		45-12	
23-88A	R2	R2		50-40	
24-72C	R6	R6+		45-25	
25-87C	Unique				
VT-87C	R1	R1		63-55	RR-13, LDS state of 87C
CT-86A		R8			Not from Machin's Mills

Total 38 varieties. Not counted in this total are ones Vlack assigned names to but have been delisted as not struck at Machin's Mills i.e. varieties 10-77A, 14-84A, 16-86A and CT-86A.

Atlee-Machin's Mills – Group One

Atlee-Machin's Mills – Group Two

Atlee-Machin's Mills – Group Four, Mules

Atlee-Machin's Mills – Group Three

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ESTIMATED RARITY BY GRADE FOR MASSACHUSETTS, VERMONT, MACHIN'S MILLS AND FUGIO COPERS

(Richard August)

I have been avidly collecting colonial coppers by die variety since 1960. I think I have come to a fairly accurate view of the rarity for the different grades of Massachusetts, Vermont, Machin's Mills and Fugio Coppers. I am sure that over an even longer period of time than 55 years, the general knowledge of serious collectors of these coins will become even more accurate. So I put this information forward as a first beginning of die variety rarity based on grade.

Years ago, I gave Alan Kessler, a Fugio Collector specialist, my opinion on the rarities for the different grades of Fugio Coppers which he then used in his book. However, I now feel that I can give a more accurate account of these Fugio varieties. This idea of rarity based on grade was the basis for an article I recently co-authored with Jim Rosen and published in the *C4 Newsletter*.

Accompanying this article are tables linking grade and rarity for the series I mentioned above. These tables are related to my understanding of grading and rarity. I have used the customary rarity scale for colonial coins. The grades that I have used in these charts are net grades, which are, in my opinion, a function of 5 factors:

1. Post striking damage
2. Post striking wear
3. Planchet quality including natural defects as found in the pre-striking planchet
4. Strike
5. Planchet Color

RARITY SCALE

Rarity	No. Examples
R9	1
R8	2 - 3
R7+	4 - 6
R7	7 - 9
R7-	10 - 12
R6+	13 - 18
R6	19 - 24
R6-	25 - 30
R5+	31 - 45
R5	46 - 60
R5-	61 - 75
R4+	76 - 115
R4	116 - 155
R4-	156 - 200
R3	201 - 500
R2	510 - 1250
R1	>1250

Grading is a very subjective matter which involves experience, and most importantly one's personal preference in weighing the above five aspects in determining the net grade of the coin. In order to have a better understanding of the tables in this article, I'd like to present my personal thoughts about the above 5 characteristics.

I personally find post striking damage such as significant scratches, abrasive cleaning, edge dents, surface dents, bends, graffiti and corrosion to be the most offensive post striking damage. Realize however, that this is my opinion and others will have to

decide for themselves how these issues affect the net grade of a coin and subsequently its value.

Post striking wear is obviously the least offensive and easiest to comprehend.

Planchet quality I feel is tied to the knowledge of how each die variety and die state come. And I find natural planchet defects less bothersome when minor, and more bothersome when intrusive.

I find strike very often a characteristic of each die variety and die state and is, in my opinion, less of a concern than the other factors noted above. However, if a die variety normally comes well struck and a given example of that die variety is poorly struck, that issue is a negative for the coin.

The color of a coin is certainly important especially when it detracts from the aesthetic appeal of the coin. If the color is not natural due to cleaning and recoloring, then that problem certainly brings down the net grade of the coin.

But finally and ultimately, everyone is entitled to weigh these factors of a coin according to their own personal preferences and thus net grade a coin according to their own scheme.

Enjoy these tables and if anyone has any suggestions for a change in them please do not hesitate to contact me @ rma1940@gmail.com.

MASSACHUSETTES COPPERS
RARITY BY GRADES

RYDER	G	VG	F	VF	XF	AU	UNC
1787 HALF CENTS							
1D	4	4	5-	5+	6+	7+	8
2A	3	3	3	4	4	7	7+
3A	5	5	5+	6	6+	7+	8
4B	5	5	5+	6-	6	7	8
4C	1	1	1	2	3	4	5
4D	8						
5A	3	3	3	4	5	6	7+
6A	6	6	6+	7-	7+	8	-
6D	6+	6+	6+	7-	7+	8	-
1788 HALF CENTS							
1A	5	5	5+	6	6+	8	-
1B	3	3	3	4	5	6	7+

1787 CENTS							
1B	7-	7	7+	8	-	-	-
2A	1	1	2	4	5	6+	8
2C	4+	4+	5	6-	6+	7	8
2E	5	5	6-	6+	7	8	-
2F	6+	6+	7	7+	7+	8	-
2G	7-	7-	7+	8	-	-	-
3G	1	1	2	3	4	5+	7+
4C	4	4	5	6	7	8	-
4D	3	3	4	5	6	7	8
4J	7	7	7+	8	-	-	-
5I	7+	7+	8	-	-	-	-
6G	4	4	5	5+	6	7	8
7H	7	7	7	7+	7+	8	-
8G	7-	7-	7+	8	-	-	-
1788 CENTS							
1D	2	2	2	3	5-	6+	7
2B	3	3	3	4	5	7-	8
3A	4	4	5	6	7-	7+	8
3E	3	3	3	4	5+	7	8
4G	5	5	5+	6	7-	8	-
4I; 17I	7	7	7+	8	-	-	-
6N	3	3	4	5	6	7	8
7M	3	3	4	5	6+	7+	8
8C	1	1	2	3	4	5+	7+
9M	7-	7-	7	7+	8	-	-
10L	1	1	2	3	5	6	7
11C	5	5	6-	6	7-	8	-
11E	5-	5-	6-	6	7-	8	-
11F	5	5	6-	6+	7	8	-
12H	7	7	8	-	-	-	-
12I	2	2	3	4+	6	7+	8
12K	6+	6+	7-	7	8	-	-
12M	2	2	3	4+	6	7+	8
12-O	7+	7+	8	-	-	-	-
13I	7+	7+	8	-	-	-	-
13N	3	3	4	5	6+	7+	8
13P	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
14J	7	7	7+	7+	8	-	-
15M	5+	5+	6	7-	8	-	-
16M	5+	5+	6	6+	7+	8	-
?18M	9	-	-	-	-	-	-

VERMONT COPPERS
RARITY BY GRADES

RYDER	G	VG	F	VF	XF	AU	UNC
1	5+	6	7-	7+	8	-	-
2	2	2	2	5-	7	8	-
3	5	5+	6-	7-	7+	8	-
4	5-	5	6-	7-	8	-	-
5 STK	7+	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	2	2	4	5-	6+	7+	8
7	3	3	4	5-	6+	7+	8
8	4	4	5	6	7-	8	-
9	4	4	5	6	7	8	-
10	3	3	4	6-	7	8	-
11	4	4	5	6+	8	-	-
12	3	3	4	5	6+	7+	8
13	1	1	1	2	4	6+	7+
14	4	4	5	6	7-	8	-
15	6	6+	7	7+	8	-	-
16	1	1	1	3	4	6+	7+
17	5	5	6-	6+	8	-	-
18	5-	5-	6	7-	8	-	-
19	5	5+	6	7-	8	-	-
20	3	3	4	5-	6+	8	-
21	5-	5	5+	6	7-	8-	-
22	5-	5	5	6	7-	8	-
23	4	4	5	6	7	8	-
24	4-	4-	4	5-	6-	7+	8
25	2	2	3	4+	6-	7	8
26	6+	6	7-	7	8	-	-
27	2	3	3	5-	6-	7-	8
28	5+	6-	7-	7	8	-	-
29	5	5	6	7-	8	-	-
30	6-	6-	7-	7	8	-	-
31	4	4	4+	5+	7	8	9
32	7+	7+	7+	8	-	-	-
33	8	-	-	-	-	-	-
34	7+	7+	7+	8	-	-	-
35	6+	7-	7-	8	-	-	-
36	6-	6-	7-	8	-	-	-
37	7	7+	7+	8	-	-	-
38	7+	7+	8	-	-	-	-
39	5+	5+	7-	7+	8	-	-

MACHIN'S MILLS HALFPENNY
RARITY BY GRADES

VLACK	G	VG	F	VF	XF	AU	UNC
1-47A	5-	5	5	6	7	8	-
2-71A	4	4	5	5+	7-	8	-
3-71B	5	5	5+	6	7	8	-
4-71C	7	7	7	7+	8	-	-
4-71D	8	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-72A	6-	6	6	7-	8	-	-
6-72A	6	6	7-	7+	8	-	-
7-72B	7-	7-	7	7+	8	-	-
24-72C	7-	7-	7-	7+	8	-	-
3-74A	5-	5-	5	5+	7-	8	-
5-74A	5	5	5	5	7-	8	-
7-74A	5+	5+	6-	6	7-	8	-
4-75A	4-	4-	4+	5	7-	8	-
6-76A	4	4	5	6	7	8	-
9-76B	6+	6+	7-	7	8	-	-
11-78A	4-	4-	5	5+	7-	8	-
12-78B	5-	5-	6-	7-	8	-	-
13-78B	5	5	6	7-	8	-	-
13-78C	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
14-84A	5+	5+	6-	7-	8	-	-
15-85NY	5+	6-	7-	7+	8	-	-
13-87CT	7+	7+	8	-	-	-	-
17-87A	3	3	4	5	6	8	-
17-87B	3	3	4	5	6	8	-
17-87E	7	7	7+	8	-	-	-
18-87C	7	7	7+	8	-	-	-
19-87C	2	2	3	5-	6	8	-
20-87C	7-	7-	7	7+	8	-	-
21-87C	6+	6+	6+	7-	8	-	-
21-87D	4	4	5-	5	7	8	-
23-87C	7+	7+	7+	8	-	-	-
25-87C	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
VT-87C	1	1	1	2	4	6+	7+
13-88CT	4	4	5	5+	7	8	-
22-88VT	4	4	5-	5+	6+	8	-
23-88A	4-	4-	5-	5+	6+	8	-

FUGIO COPPERS
RARITY BY GRADES

NEWMAN	G	VG	F	VF	XF	AU	UNC
1B	4	4+	5-	6-	7	8	-
1L	6	6	6+	7	8	-	-
1Z	7-	7-	7	7+	8	-	-
1CC	8	-	-	-	-	-	-
2C	6	6	7-	7	8	-	-
3D	3	3	3	5-	6	7+	8
4E	3	3	4	5	6+	8	-
5F	7	7	7+	8	-	-	-
5HH	7+	7+	8	-	-	-	-
6W	3	3	3	4	6	8	-
7T	4+	4+	4+	6-	6+	8	-
8B	1	1	1	3	5	3	2
8X	1	1	1	3	5	3	2
9P	4	4	4	4	6	7	7+
9Q	4+	4+	5	6	7	8	-
9S	6+	6+	7-	7	7+	8	-
9T	6	6	6+	7-	7	8	-
10G	5+	5+	6+	7-	8	-	-
10T	5+	5+	6+	7-	8	-	-
10-OO	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
11A	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
11B	4-	4-	4-	4-	6	5	4-
11X	2	2	2	3	6	4	3
12KK	5+	5+	6-	6	7+	8	-
12LL	7	7	7	7+	8	-	-
12M	4-	4-	4	5	6	8	-
12S	6-	6-	6-	6+	8	-	-
12U	3	3	4	4+	7	8	-
12X	1	1	1	3	5	3	2
12Z	6	6	6	6+	7+	8	-
13KK	7+	7+	7+	8	-	-	-
13N	7-	7-	7	7+	8	-	-
13R	5+	5+	6	6+	8	-	-
13X	1	1	1	2	5	2	1
13JJ	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
14H	8	8	8	-	-	-	-
14-O	3	3	3	5+	7-	8	-
14X	9	-	-	-	-	-	-

15H	6-	6-	6	6+	8	-	-
15K	7-	7-	7	7+	8	-	-
15V	6	6	6+	7	8	-	-
15Y	2	2	2	3	5	7	8
16H	6-	6-	6	6+	7	8	-
16N	5-	5-	5	6	7	8	-
17-I	7+	7+	8	-	-	-	-
17S	5-	5-	5-	6	6+	8	-
17T	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
17WW	7-	7-	7+	8	-	-	-
18H	5+	6	6+	7+	8	-	-
18U	3	3	3	5	7	8	-
18X	7	7	7+	8	-	-	-
19M	7-	7-	7	7+	8	-	-
19SS	5+	5+	6	6+	8	-	-
19Z	5+	5+	6	6+	7+	8	-
20R	5+	5+	6+	7	8	-	-
20X	6	6	6+	7	8	-	-
21-I	4+	4+	5	6	8	-	-
22M	6-	6-	6	6+	8	-	-
23zz	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
24MM	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
25PP	9	-	-	-	-	-	-

"I would be remiss if I did not thank Jim Rosen for his time, energy and his expert suggestions in the preparation of this article." – Dick

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CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

2016 will be an election year for all elective C4 officers. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else who is a member in good standing of the Colonial Coin Collectors Club for one of these positions, please contact either Syd Martin (sfmartin5@comcast.net) or Leo Shane (leo_j_shane@hotmail.com), who have been asked to head the Nominating Committee. Note: a requirement for regional Vice Presidents is that they live in that region.

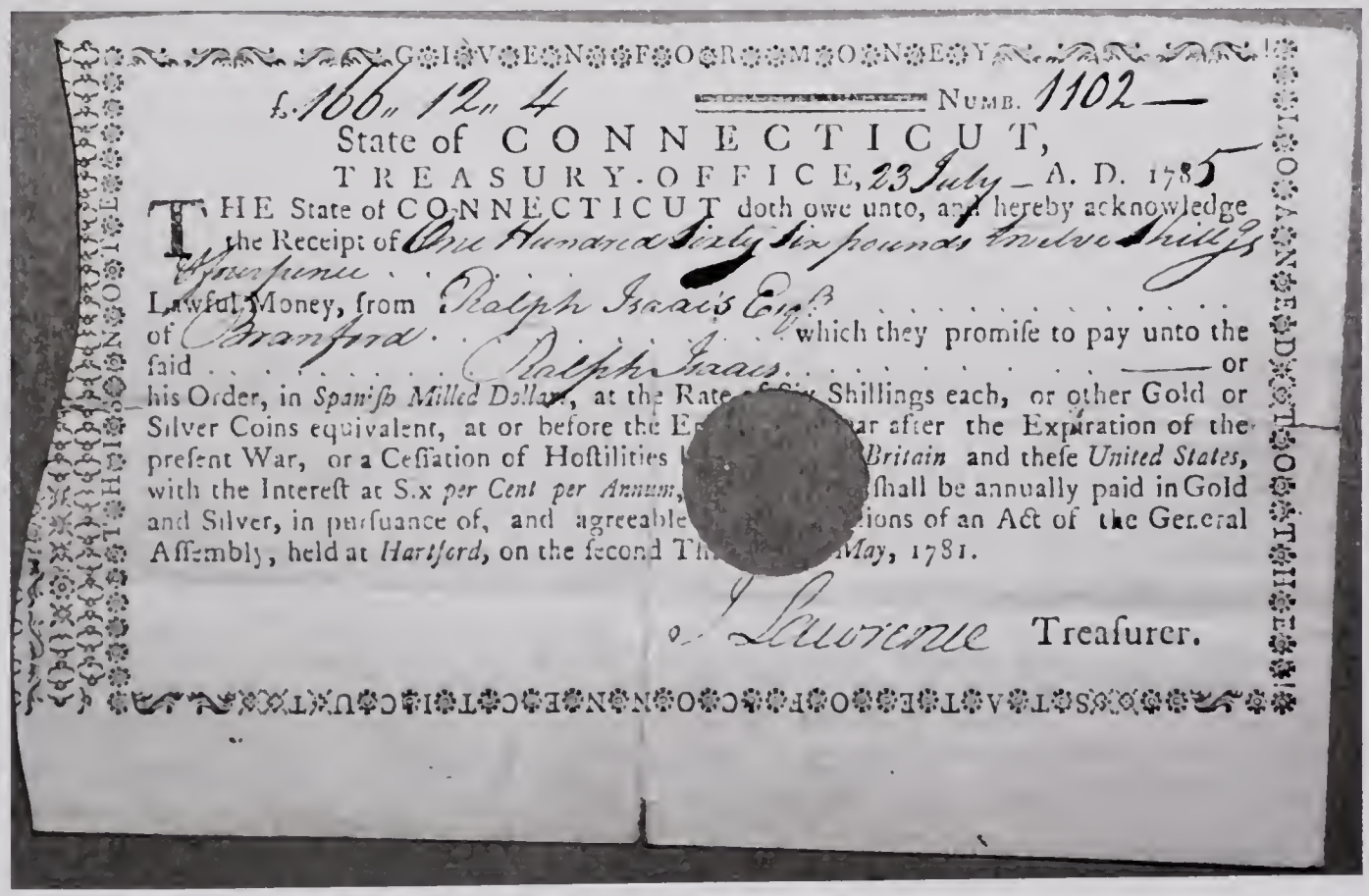
A PIECE OF NEW HAVEN HISTORY

(Randy Clark)

In November 1977, noted Connecticut coppers researcher Norman Bryant published an excellent article on the Samuel Broome house in New Haven, associated with both Fugio and Connecticut copper mints (see *The Colonial Newsletter*, volume 16, number 3). Samuel Broome had purchased the house from its original owner and builder, Ralph Isaacs.

Isaacs was a Yale (1761) educated merchant, living in New Haven starting officially in 1763. The Isaacs house was built sometime between 1770 and 1771, per land records. Ralph Isaacs was considered a Tory by the Connecticut General Assembly in 1776 and "marooned" until 1778, when he took an oath of fidelity to the United States. After selling his home to Broome for £1,300 in 1784, Isaacs retired to "Cherry Hill" in Branford, Connecticut, where he lived until passing in October 1799. The Bryant article has substantial detail on Isaacs and his house, and still more information is available in Bryant's New Haven investigation archives.

In a recent currency auction, the following Connecticut Treasury Certificate was acquired – once owned by Ralph Isaacs from 1785 to 1799. This "Lawrence" certificate, named after the active treasurer at the time, John Lawrence (active 1769-1789), was documenting a loan to the State of Connecticut by Isaacs of £ 166/12/4 (166 pounds, 12 shillings, 4 pence), bearing an interest of 6% per year.


GIVEN FOR MONEY

£166 12 4 — NUMB. 1102

State of CONNECTICUT,

TREASURY-OFFICE, 23 July — A. D. 1785

THE State of CONNECTICUT doth owe unto, and hereby acknowledge the Receipt of One Hundred Sixty Six pounds twelve Shillings Seven pence Lawful Money, from Ralph Isaacs Esq^r of Branford which they promise to pay unto the said Ralph Isaacs or his Order, in *Spaniſh Milled Dollars*, at the Rate of Six Shillings each, or other Gold or Silver Coins equivalent, at or before the End of One Year after the Expiration of the preſent War, or a Ceſſation of Hoſtilities between *Great Britain* and theſe *United States*, with the Intereſt at Six *per Cent per Annum*, which ſhall be annually paid in Gold and Silver, in purſuance of, and agreeable to the Directions of an Act of the General Aſſembly, held at *Hartford*, on the ſecond Thurſday of *May*, 1781.

J. Lawrence Treaſurer.

SOLEMNLY TO PERFORM THE CONDITION

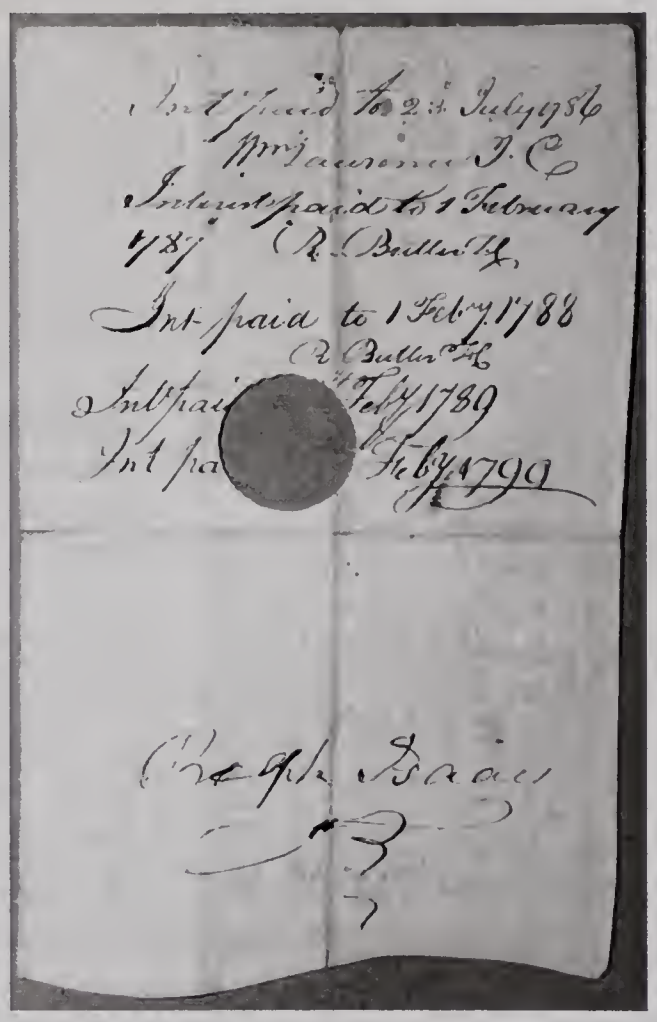
£ 166 „ 12 „ 4 Numb. 1102

State of CONNECTICUT
TREASURY OFFICE, 23 July A. D. 1785

The State of CONNECTICUT doth owe unto, and hereby acknowledge the Receipt of One Hundred Sixty Six pounds twelve Shillings & four pence .....
Lawful Money, from Ralph Isaacs, Esq .....
of Branford .....which they promise to pay unto the said ..... Ralph Isaacs ..... or his Order, in Spanish Milled Dollars, at the Rate of Six Shillings each, or other Gold or Silver Coins equivalent, at or before the End of the Year after Expiration of the present War, or a Cessation of Hostilities, between Great Britain and these United States, with the Interest at Six per Cent per Annum, which Interest shall be annually paid in Gold and Silver, of pursuance of, and agreeable to the Directions of an Act of the General Assembly, held at Hartford, on the Second Thursday of May, 1781.

J Lawrence Treasurer.

Certificate Outline: THIS NOTE GIVEN FOR MONEY LOANED TO THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT



These interest bearing certificates were periodically turned in to the Connecticut Treasury representative to collect on the 6% annual interest payment. As can be seen, Isaacs or his representative actively collected on the interest payments from July 1786 to February 1799. The hole punched in the document is a cancellation mark, indicating the certificate was terminated at some point, with the return of Isaacs' original £ 166/12/4 investment. Note that Isaacs passed in October 1799 – at the age of 59.

It is my opinion the crude signature on the back is that of Ralph Isaacs, himself – whereas the front could possibly be that of Isaacs or the Treasurer, John Lawrence, when the interest certificate was filled out.

Notice the 1785 hand filled in date of origination, but the printed May 1781 date on the lower certificate and the close linkage with the "the present War, or a Cessation of Hostilities, between Great Britain and these United States." This type of certificate had been in use often during the war years, and apparently found use in the years afterwards, as well.

As an aside, Ralph Isaacs' daughter, Grace, married New Haven's Jonathan Ingersoll – an important Connecticut Mint financier. The Ingersoll's were a colorful couple, but that is another story, for another time.

It's fun to see pieces of history go by which were handled by players directly, or indirectly, associated with Connecticut mint history.

THE BRASHER DOUBLOON: WHEN LIFE IMITATES ART

(Marc Mayhugh)

"'What was taken,' she went on, 'was a gold coin called a Brasher doubloon. It was the pride of my husband's collection.'" Thus begins Philip Marlowe's association with the fictional "Murdock" example of the Brasher doubloon in Raymond Chandler's classic whodunit, *The High Window*. Later on, the novel would be immortalized in film noir aptly titled, *The Brasher Doubloon*.[1]

(Left) Book cover, *The High Window* by Raymond Chandler.
(Right) Movie Poster, *The Brasher Doubloon*.
Photos courtesy of Heritage Auctions (ha.com).

In his pursuit of the doubloon, which is described in the book as, "in some ways the most interesting and valuable of all Early American coins," the famous detective has to side-step bumbling private eyes, suspicious cops, beautiful showgirls, unscrupulous coin dealers and a counterfeiting scheme. What is truly amazing is that a little over twenty years after it was written, a real-life Brasher doubloon would be stolen, and then recovered by a hard-nosed detective - NOT ONCE, BUT TWICE!!! In each instance, a separate specimen of the Brasher doubloon was involved, and each time it was recovered by a different private investigator.

Philip Marlowe, Chandler's detective, was ignorant of the nature of the doubloon, declaring, "What I don't know about early American coins you could almost crowd into the Rose Bowl." Today, however, most people have at least heard of these rare coins because of the fabulous prices they now command. Most colonial collectors are aware of Ephraim Brasher's famous "EB" counterstamp that he used to regulate gold coins and his association with coins other than the doubloons (For example, his probable association and involvement with New Jersey, and Nova Eborac coppers).

The famous New York style Brasher doubloons feature a view of the sun rising over the mountains, shining down on a body of water, encircled by New York's motto, "*Excelsior*" ("Most Excellent"). The reverse depicts an early version of the Federal eagle with the maker's initials stamped on the eagle's wing, and, in one instance, on the eagle's breast. Brasher's doubloons were roughly the size and weight of the Spanish doubloon that circulated freely in America during colonial days. They were worth sixteen Spanish dollars at the time, although current thinking is revising that figure downward to fifteen dollars.

The first *actual* theft of a Brasher doubloon occurred in May, 1965. This was the Yale University specimen that was taken from the Sterling Memorial Library when intruders overpowered the guard, and snatched the Brasher and other valuable coins. This example, often called the Parmelee specimen, sported an illustrious pedigree that also included noted numismatists Virgil M. Brand, B. G. Johnson and F. C. C. Boyd.[2]

The Yale (Parmelee) specimen of a New York style Brasher Doubloon, stolen May, 1965.
Photo courtesy of Jack Howes.

Several years went by after the theft with only a few of the Yale coins turning up, mainly in the coin shop of a Chicago dealer named Reisen.[3] Then suddenly, a Miami investigator, Dick Andrews, heard a rumor of the Brasher in relation to another robbery and tracked down its new owners and their location. Facts about what happened next are a bit fuzzy. The thieves were aware of the fact that they couldn't sell the Brasher which, in Andrews' words, would be like trying to sell the Mona Lisa.[4] So, through some intense negotiations, Andrews was able to acquire the doubloon, although the thieves were never identified. This would indicate that some sort of deal was struck, and the doubloon may have even been ransomed. There was some real fear the coin could actually be melted down for its gold content since it would be so hard to fence, or dispose of. James Risk, in his *CNL* article states that at times Andrews' life was clearly in danger while arranging the recovery of the doubloon.[5] Andrews, a rather flamboyant character, has since passed on, so the true story of what occurred may never be known. Attesting to his quirkiness, Andrews sat down and wrote his report of the recovery of the coin in poetry. The tenor of Mr. Andrews' poem suggests that the doubloon was indeed held for ransom.

BALLAD OF THE BRASHER

All that glitters is not gold
and some that is cannot be sold
Such then found its way to the Windy City
Causing Mr. Riesen to be arrested - what a pity
But the gold recovered was not of the stature
Of that lovely doubloon of Mr Brasher.
The Chicago coin fanciers then were afraid,
So they decided the doubloon should be sent to Dade.
The writer was called in the dead of night,
And awakened with a terrible fright.
They spoke of the coin and of many dollars,
It was obvious they were numismatic scholars.
They bragged how they took it from Yale,
And now it was being offered for sale.
Four months of discussions through Mother Bell,
Two of the six were hard to sell.
We finally agreed on that certain price,
And you know how it is to deal with such lice.
But not to recover it would have been like treason
And most of all that was my reason.[6]

Just months after the Yale Brasher doubloon was returned, another theft of a well known example occurred and, once again, the numismatic community was in danger of losing a treasured artifact. This time the theft occurred at a private residence, the home of billionaire Willis DuPont. This distinct Brasher example was taken during a robbery which happened in October, 1967 and was stolen along with a collection that was valued at $1.5 million at the time.

Amazingly, the DuPont security was breached simply because the alarm had not been set. The thieves scaled the estate's wall and entered the home through an unlocked patio door. DuPont later admitted that the door had never latched properly. The haul netted the robbers nearly 7,000 coins including, along with the Brasher, the Mikhailovich collection of Russian coins and the Linderman and Cohen specimens of the 1804 silver dollar.[7]

The robbery was a very traumatic experience for the DuPonts who were tied up and threatened at gunpoint, their children asleep in the nursery next door. The family was so upset by the experience that they moved out of the home immediately, never bothering even to sell their property. Instead they donated the whole estate to the University of Pennsylvania.

The DuPont specimen, stolen October, 1967. Photo courtesy of Jack Howes.

Enter Harold Gray, our second Marlowe. Hired by DuPont, Gray used his shadowy resources to track down, and set up an FBI sting operation that recovered thirteen of DuPont's territorial gold pieces. Later on he was involved in the recovery of the Linderman example of the 1804 Silver dollar. The recovery of the DuPont Brasher doubloon, however, was pure serendipity.

The story goes like this: A two-bit, Miami hoodlum, after hitting his wife during a domestic dispute, was, in turn, beaten to a pulp by his father-in-law. When the gangster was treated at the hospital, a doctor cut away a piece of tape attached to his ankle and found himself staring at one of America's most famous coins, the DuPont Brasher doubloon. Gray was called in immediately. He secured the doubloon and saw that it was returned to its rightful owner. Again, the facts of the recovery of the doubloon are sketchy and confusing. An item in the Bibliomania Society's *Esylum* quotes a *Miami Herald* article that claims the doubloon was recovered when an ex-convict named William Metzler tried to sell the coin to undercover FBI agents. At any rate, and most importantly, the DuPont example of the Brasher was saved.

Chandler claims in his book that hundreds, maybe thousands of Brasher doubloons were created. The fictional Murdock specimen was special because it was in pristine condition. This is probably far from the truth. Brasher's coins were quite likely produced in limited quantities. Today six New York style pieces exist with the Brasher countermark on the eagle's wing, and one with the stamp on the eagle's breast. There is also an example of a half-doubloon, as well as two Lima style doubloons resembling Spanish gold cobs. This brings the total number of extant Brasher pieces to ten, although various texts sometimes cite different numbers. For this reason, the numismatic community owes a great debt of gratitude to Dick Andrews and Harold Gray for their participation in the recovery of two of these very important pieces of early American numismatic history.

Endnotes

1. Chandler, Raymond, *The Brasher Doubloon*, The World Publishing Co., 1946. P. 12.
2. Risk, James C., "The Yale University Brasher Doubloon," *The Colonial Newletter*, September, 1981, Vol. 20, No. 2. p.763.
3. Putnum, Pat, "Sam Spade Goes to the Dogs," *Sports Illustrated*, July 20,1970. Vol 33, Issue 3, p. 52.
4. *Ibid.*
5. Risk. p. 764
6. Putnum
7. Standiford, Les, "The Great Coin Heist," *Reader's Digest*, Pleasantville, New York, Reader's Digest Association, Inc., 2005.

REPORT OF NEWLY DISCOVERED NJ VARIETY RECONSIDERED[1]

(Jack Howes)

In a previous C4 Newsletter, the article "The 1787 New Jersey Maris 72-aa" described what appeared to be a new NJ variety – an unknown combination of two known dies. This is something that does not happen every day and the bar for validating such a discovery is naturally very high. Such a potential discovery must be carefully studied from several standpoints. The first question to answer: was the identification of the dies correct? The varieties 71-y, 72-z and 73-aa are all quite rare and because they are commonly overstruck they are hard to identify as they tend to be a jumble of legends and devices from two different coins.

Let's examine the obverse of the "purported 72-aa" first [Figure 1 below]. In this particular case the identification of the obverse die variety, despite severe post-strike damage is not particularly difficult. The plow and full date and start of the legend are all clearly visible. And all clearly match the features of the Maris 72 obverse die, particularly the stubby handles [Figure 2]. So, it is an obverse die match.

The reverse is more difficult to assess. The shield is fully visible but the legend is very weak and only a few letters show. Without a clear legend, these varieties are very difficult to attribute. But let's compare the reverse of this "purported 72-aa" [Figure 1 and enlarged area in Figure 3] to images of each of the other similar reverses – y, z, and aa [Figure 3]. First, it's clearly not a Maris y as the * (star) between S and U is not positioned correctly relative to the right shield point. So it's either a Maris z or Maris aa. Note the position of the S and the * on these two varieties. It is pretty clear that the base of the S and * are aligned on the Maris z but not on the Maris aa. The example we are examining seems to match the Maris aa. So on that basis we conclude this is a match to the Maris aa reverse but there is really not much to go on.

The next thing to consider is authenticity. Does it have any characteristics that make it an obvious copy e.g., is it a cast of a known specimen? **This does not appear to be a cast but rather a struck example.** Does it have characteristics of other known modern fabrications? Yes it does. First, it is very dark and also has been damaged extensively which is very reminiscent of several other modern fabrications. **Whenever you see this combination of characteristics extreme caution is required.**

---

[1] Thanks to Buell Ish, Roger Siboni, Ray Williams and James Rosen for reviewing and helping refine the arguments in this analysis.

The next step was to examine all the Maris 72-z images on hand, which amounted to 23 different examples. Of these I discounted three that were too poor to use for visual comparisons, leaving 20 different examples to study.

One of these stood out almost immediately: an obverse brockage struck over a Geo. III British contemporary counterfeit which was plated in *Forgotten Coins of the North American Colonies* (1992, Anton & Kesse, Krause Publications, plate IX-X, No.167). The enlarged black & white image from Figure 3 is scanned from that book. While it is not a high resolution image, it is good enough to use for this analysis. There is no obverse post-strike damage on the brockage or at least any visible in this image [a better image might show some minor marks]. **Post-strike damage is one primary way to identify a fake made from another coin.** But given no obvious damage on what looks like it could be a master there was nothing further to be learned on this path.

The final thing to consider is strike related characteristics. Even using the same dies, it was rare that every strike on a manually operated screw press produced an identical coin. This is particularly so when overstriking[2] as were most if not all 72-z varieties.

For the "purported 72-aa", the centering of the strike and the extent of the denticulation are identical to the brockage from *Forgotten Coins*. But more importantly the dramatically multi-struck (probably 3 times) plow also appears to be very similar if not identical. The only real strike differences between these two are the 2nd half of the legend and the horse's mouth and nose are not struck up. But given that the "purported 72-aa" is an overstrike, this is not surprising. Looking closer I found two other interesting strike characteristics on the brockage -- a stub of what appears to be a partial plow handle below the bottom handle (arrowed in red Figure 4) and the right side of the scroll below the horse which is only weakly struck up (also arrowed Figure 4).

Checking my study images of other 72-z examples to see which others had identical or close to identical features, I found that some examples had a similar strike position and denticulation and about half had minor doubling, but none had a dramatic multiple strike except the "purported 72-aa" and the brockage. Most importantly the "purported 72-aa" and the brockage were the only two to exhibit the weakly struck up scroll and stub of a something below the plow handles. It should be very unlikely to encounter two coins with such similar strike specific characteristics. Can we quantify how unlikely? Yes, I think we can.

---

[2] Using previously struck coins as planchet stock rather than a smooth freshly prepared blank planchet

I identified five strike characteristics of the current example to look for in the set of Maris 72-z study images: 1) denticulation -- where it starts and where it ends, 2) centering of the strike, 3) presence of a dramatically multi-struck plow, 4) the stub of a handle just under the plow handles, and 5) the stub of a scroll under the horse [See Figure 4]. I believe these are independent features i.e., one can occur without the others. What exact strike characteristics occur on a struck coin will depend on such things as how exactly the planchet is placed in the press, how much force is used in a strike and many other factors. For the population of different Maris 72-zs in my image collection I found the following. The denticulation is identical or nearly so in about 1/3 of the examples. The strike position was identical or very close in about half of the examples. However, the last three features were found on only one example – the obverse brockage from *Forgotten Coins* in Figure 4. I calculated the probability of finding all five of these independent features on another random example by multiplying the individual probabilities and the result there shows there is less than 1 chance in 40,000 of another strike with these characteristics arising randomly. Considering that only about 5 thousand of the Maris 72-z variety were likely struck to begin with, you can see how unlikely this is.

Another, non-quantitative, way to think about this is that **all of the striking features on the coin under study are a subset of what we see on another example**. We see nothing of the die on the "purported 72-aa" that is not also on the brockage. With overstruck coins you always see some different parts of the die on one coin that are not on another. It is just what happens during overstriking.

Based on this analysis it's my opinion this example is a modern fabrication rather than a newly discovered New Jersey copper variety.

Figure 1. Purported Maris 72-aa. The coin is dark and has severe post-strike damage. This image shows the actual color of the coin.

Figure 2. Maris 71, 72, 73 obverses plus the "purported 72-aa" [upper right]. To distinguish 72 and 73 look where the ears point: AE for 73 or between AE and S for the 72. When that part of the coin is missing look at the distance from the 2nd star to the plow handle; closer on the 72. Also plow handles are longer and have more separation on the 73 than the 72. Finally, the top of the 1 in the date is even with the 7 on the 72, slightly lower on the 73.

Note the position of the * (star) relative to the S and U

Figure 3. Enlargement of reverse segment of example under discussion and reverse dies from three different but very similar and rare Maris varieties -- 71-y, 72-z, 73-aa. Currently each these reverse dies are known only combined in a single marriage.

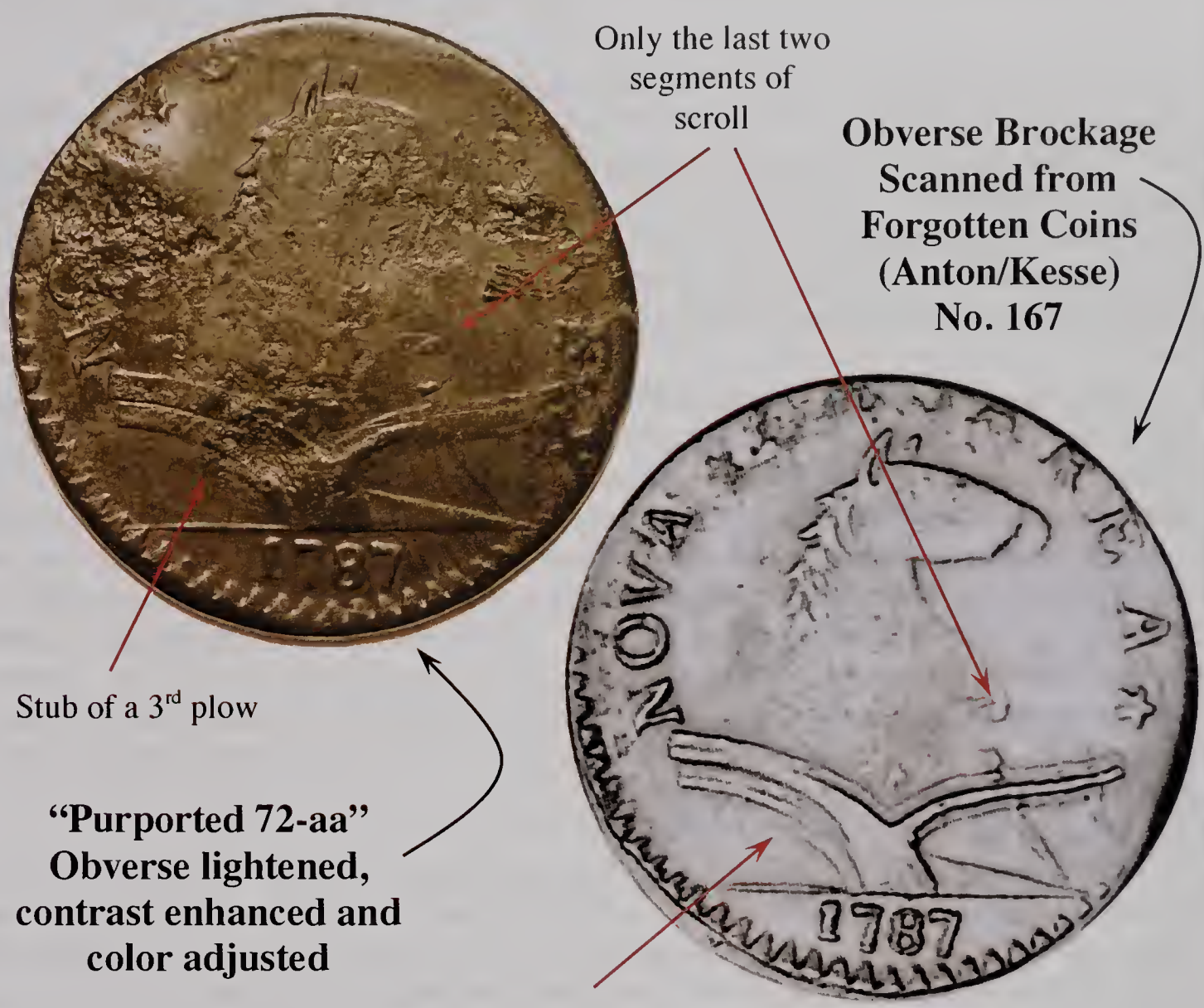

Only the last two segments of scroll
Obverse Brockage Scanned from Forgotten Coins (Anton/Kesse) No. 167
Stub of a 3rd plow
"Purported 72-aa" Obverse lightened, contrast enhanced and color adjusted
1787
Stub of a 3rd plow

Figure 4. Obverses of the purported 72-aa and the Maris 72 obverse brockage from *Forgotten Coins*. Note the identical strike position on the planchet, the same start and stop of the denticulation. Arrows mark the stub of what is probably the remnant of a third strike and the last two segments of the scroll below the horse. identical on each specimen.

THE DISCOVERY – AND REDISCOVERY - OF AN EXTREMELY RARE CONNECTICUT COPPER

(Jeff Rock)

Collectors of colonial coins are used to extreme rarities, in pretty much every series. There are major types and die varieties that are legendary – and which seldom appear for sale. Decades, generations, a lifetime or even a century or more can go by without some of these pieces ever appearing for public sale, and the longer the stretch between sightings of a particular variety, the more hallowed it becomes.

But collectors of today have lived through an amazing period in numismatic history – one that is really unprecedented, and perhaps unrecognized for the opportunities it offered. In a period of just 35 years we have witnessed a flood of colonials coming to the market. In that time major collections like Garrett, Roper, Picker, Taylor, Norweb, Brand, Eliasberg, Oechsner, Ford and Newman have all come to auction, while the Partrick collection will have its first major section sold by the time this article is printed (with at least three more blockbuster portions of that collection left to go). To these major auctions one can add a multitude of smaller, perhaps more specialized sales to the list – Perkins, Griffee, O'Donnell, Hains. Matlock, Hinkley, Lindesmith, H. Garrett, Cole, Hessberg, Collins, Foreman – the list goes on and on, and another three dozen "name" sales could be added without much effort.

When one takes a look at that first group of major sales, one is struck by the fact that a really large number of those were off the market for periods of 50-100 years, and those collections contained some of the rarest of the rare colonial coins. Garrett was a multi-generation collection that was then held in a college museum for another half century. Norweb was also a multi-generation collection and held by the family intact until it was decided to sell. Brand and Eliasberg were formed by single collectors, but were off the market (at least some parts of the Brand sale) for decades after their owners passed away. The Ford and Newman collections both contained coins from earlier collectors that were acquired privately – Ford with the majority of the F.C.C. Boyd collection (which included the Ryder collection and chunks of the Dr. Hall and Virgil Brand collections) and Newman with delicacies from the Colonel Green collection – meaning many of the coins in those two collections were last publicly offered for public sale a century or more ago!

It would boggle the mind of a collector from, say, the 1940's or even the 1970's to think of the huge number of colonials that have come on the market in just this 35-year period. Perhaps the only time something even remotely comparable happened was in the era where the Mickley, Bushnell, Crosby, Parmalee and a few other major collections were sold in a similar stretch of time – and, of course, many of those coins went into these later major collections which had been off the market for long stretches of time.

This embarrassment of riches has given all of us an unprecedented chance to add things to our collections – including things that we probably thought we would never actually get the chance to see, let alone bid on.

One of the most interesting areas, at least for this writer, was the extremely crude contemporary counterfeit Connecticut coppers dated 1786, popularly known as the "Bungtown Issues." While going into the history of this group – all clearly related to each other – is something that will be done in more detail when Randy Clark's Connecticut copper book reaches print, a brief overview is permitted. A single variety was known to Betts, who was the first to illustrate it in 1886, and another specimen of the same variety was known to Dr. Hall when he added one to his collection within the next decade. Other varieties, similar in crudeness and rarity came to light over the next century or so, with Ned Barnsley attempting to put them in some order, where he listed four known varieties. This author continued his listing of them in his 1991 *Colonial Newsletter* article updating the Miller book – but this was done without ever seeing ANY of these in hand, only through photographs of differing quality (and these photos were of coins that were crude to say the least). Eventually the list of known varieties climbed to seven, some of which appear to be from the same die, with repair work or recutting of elements making them different enough to be considered new varieties.

To specialists, the 1786 Bungtowns were indeed pieces of legendary rarity – the only public auction of one was in 1919 in the Miller sale, and every sale of Connecticut coppers offered since that time had not had any Bungtown variety, including the famous EAC '75 sale – right on up to the 2005 sale of the Connecticut coppers portion of the John Ford collection. To FINALLY be able to hold, examine and drool over (but not drool on, thankfully everything was in plastic flips!) was simply amazing. While dreams of owning something like that were quickly squelched when the sale price hit almost $100,000 (setting a record for a Connecticut copper that would last until the Keller sale over a half decade later), for someone who really enjoys this series, it was akin to an art lover being able to hold the Mona Lisa and examine it in detail.

Fast forward a couple years when, surprise, a private collector decided to sell his few remaining coins – including a small group of 1786 Bungtown Connecticut coppers! Bought from the 1950's to the early 1970's, all from private sources, these coins were mostly unknown to the collecting community and were quickly placed into another private collection. While not "publicly" offered for sale (i.e., at an auction or on a price list), they were shared by their new owner, experts were able to view and study them and their existence was added to the roster of known specimens. That list of known pieces then included four other coins, two of which are in the permanent collection of the American Numismatic Society (one coming from Ned Barnsley via the Colonial Newsletter Foundation collection) and two more in the Eric Newman collection, which was also presumed to be off the market…until it wasn't.

The Newman pieces both sold in 2014, one a bit cheaper than the Ford coin and the other selling for such a ridiculously low price that more than one of us in the audience considered it to be THE bargain of the sale – but the winning bidder was prepared to go

much, much higher so many of us just sighed and put our hands down, knowing we weren't going to win that battle.

With the sale of the Newman pair, all known specimens of the 1786 Bungtown Connecticut copper types that were held privately had now been seen and offered for sale (not including the pair in the ANS, of course) – in a stretch of just under a decade! Again, an embarrassment of riches since the last public sale was 1919, nearly a century earlier! Well, at least we thought all known specimens had been seen…and we finally get to the real story here.

A few weeks after the Newman sale was in the books, and the coin newspapers had run stories on the amazing coins and even more amazing prices, this writer received a phone call from a metal detectorist he had purchased things from in the past. The phone call started off with "Hey, I have one of those counterfeit Connecticut copper thingies that just sold for a lot of money. I found it about 8 or 9 years ago." My answer was "No, you don't. Those are extremely rare. You probably have a Connecticut copper from 1786 or maybe one of the crude counterfeit British halfpennies that look kind of similar, especially if you can't see much of the legend." His response was: "hang on, let me take a pic with my phone." Shortly after that, my response was something that can't quite be printed here but which can be summarized as "%#&*(%, you really do have one!" Amazingly, the piece had laid unidentified in his "junk box" (his words) of ground finds, with other pieces, some colonial, that he wasn't able to identify to variety (the ones he was able to identify usually ended up sold on e-bay or, if slightly better varieties, sold to dealers like me).

His cell phone pics sent were not the greatest, but enough to recognize the coin as being of the "Miller 2.3-T" type, the variety that was in the Ford sale (its number will change when Randy Clark finishes his book, and all the counterfeits will be removed from the Miller 2 obverse family and given their own separate numbers). The coin was eventually sent out to me, arriving just in time to take along to this year's C4 Convention in Baltimore where it thrilled some people, and left others not so thrilled because of its condition (however, I'm one of those people that think ANY R-8 variety is worth owning, even if it can barely be identified!).

The coin itself was probably fairly high grade when it was first lost. The surviving central detail is similar to the Miller-Ford coin, though a couple centuries in the ground have eaten away much of the peripheral detail, though traces of the legends can be seen, which certainly help to identify the variety, though the rather unique reverse figure style is more than enough to figure out what it is!

An illustration of the newest example, along with the Miller-Ford coin are below, for comparison purposes.

Figure One: The "newly" discovered 1786 Bungtown Connecticut Copper, currently listed as Miller 2.3-T (Photo courtesty of Jack Howes)

Figure Two: The Miller-Ford example of the variety, for comparison purposes. Note especially the distinct seated Liberty figure on the reverse. (Photo courtesty of Stack's Bowers)

The ground find measures in at 27.70mm in diameter and weighs 102.9 grains. The Ford piece is a little larger at 28.1mm and 124.1 grains – the difference on the present example probably due to erosion while it was in the ground. The Ford piece is noted as being coin turn, while the ground find specimen has the reverse rotated 270 degrees. It's impossible to ascertain the die state on the grounder coin – but it appears that there was no real appreciable die damage known on any of the Bungtown varieties, so perhaps the counterfeiters recut/repaired dies when any sort of damage was noted.

With many metal detecorists, getting accurate information about when and where something was found is often impossible – some just don't keep records, while others are secretive about sites that they are working, especially ones that yield something of value.

This is understandable, and I was initially told the piece was found "near New Haven, but not in it." A little more pressing – with no request for exact GPS coordinates or anything like that! – yielded the fact that it was found in the city of North Branford, which is about a dozen miles east of New Haven.

Far more interesting than either the where or the when was the "what" question – specifically, what else was found at the site. Not being a controlled archaeological dig, no records were kept of the depth of various finds, and as expected there were two hundred years' worth of coins and artifacts found, ranging from more modern coins and bottle caps found on or slightly under the surface, to older pieces found at the depth of several inches or over a foot in some cases. The site is (or was) vacant, with the foundation of an older house still visible, the type of venue a detectorist will always enjoy hunting around.

Colonial issues found at this site – spaced out over more than a year and on 20-odd different visits, but dug at the same general depth as this Bungtown – include over a dozen Connecticut coppers (two of which were specifically found with the Bungtown, literally in the same shovel full of dirt), a pair of Hibernia halfpennies (dates not visible), over 20 counterfeit British halfpence, a single New Jersey copper and numerous large cents (but oddly no half cents, which is something the detectorist always hoped to find). Because of the soil condition and dampness, all of the copper issues (up to things like later-date Indian Head cents) showed signs of surface corrosion. The silver coinage (sadly, none of it was colonial) fared much better; no gold was found at all. Artifacts found at the same general depth of the colonials and early US copper included buttons, broken clay pipes, shoe buckles and horse harness equipment, as well as the usual mishmash of parts of things that couldn't immediately be identified.

This find effectively seals the debate about when and, possibly, where the Bungtowns were made. While some have thought them later concoctions (based solely on the fact that it was C. Wyllys Betts who found and illustrated the first example – the same Betts who made cool, crude copies of colonials in his youth, though these have no stylistic similarity with those whatsoever and Betts illustrated numerous counterfeits that have never been questioned, including the first illustration of Atlee/Machin's Mills coppers and 1781 and 1785 dated counterfeit British halfpence), its find with other colonials proves it to be of the same period – certainly it would not have been made after the Coppers Panic of 1789 wiped out the value of Connecticut coppers. Indeed, the 1786 date may well be the year it was actually struck – if it was produced at the same time that some of the unusual 1786 varieties (Miller 1-A, 2.1-A, 2.1-D.3, 2.2-D.3, 3-D.1 and 3-D.4 are all especially crude) were made, it might not have stood out as especially unusual. Once the more standardized version of the Draped Bust 1787 varieties were introduced, these earlier, cruder varieties may have been less acceptable in commerce, at least in a larger city, which might explain why this was found a dozen miles outside of New Haven. North Branford was not incorporated as a city until 1831, though there were obviously people living in the rural area well before that, and there are examples of colonial and early American style houses within the city. Presumably residents would have traveled into New Haven or other nearby, larger towns for supplies, etc. as there does not appear to have been any businesses in the area at this early date, at least none that were found with various Google searches.

While one coin does not answer all questions, its find in Connecticut, and very close to New Haven proper, suggests that these were made locally – really, the only two areas that make sense for it to have been made would be actually in Connecticut, where it was a known type and would have passed fairly easily, or New York where the "Machin's Mills" facility was adept at turning out crude, lightweight pieces. Walter Breen's suggestion of vague and mysterious North Swansea, Massachusetts Bungtown mints have no proof of having produced any colonial counterfeits, though it is possible they made some of the counterfeit Massachusetts cents – or, more likely, counterfeit British coppers and Spanish silver coinage. It was an example of Breen's thought process – "here we have some counterfeits, there we have a counterfeit mint site mentioned in passing in some records, therefore they must be related, Eureka!" But Walter (who was a good friend) had the same flaw that many geniuses possess – when their theory makes sense to them, it is henceforth considered to be a fact, written in stone and unchangeable by evidence to the contrary. This isn't to say that all of Walter's work suffers the same fate, it just means that a careful reading – and thorough examination of his sources – is needed before anything is taken as gospel. Which is good advice for ANY author's output, of course.

Needless to say, the discovery of this coin – and, nearly a decade later, the discovery of what it actually was! – has been a thrilling event for the person who found it. It was just as thrilling for this writer who has now seen all specimens of these Bungtowns in person, save for the new one in the ANS from The Colonial Newsletter Foundation and Ned Barnsley collections.

It may seem unusual that they all came out in just a decade or so, but what a decade this has been. EVERY known example of silver Continental dollar has been sold in a few year period. More Higley coppers, NE and Willow Tree shilling, Confederatio coppers, New York "patterns" and all other extreme rarities have been sold in the last 15 years than in the last 100 years before that, combined. Again, we are fortunate enough to be living through a pretty remarkable time in the history of our little slice of the hobby! Enjoy it while it lasts – if history is any indication, we could go from flood to drought once these sales are done!

CONVENTION SUMMARY

(Arnold Miniman)

The 21st annual convention of the Colonial Coin Collectors Club (C4) was held in conjunction with the Whitman Baltimore Expo at the Baltimore Convention Center from November 5 through November 7, 2015. For the fourth year the convention was held in association with Stack's Bowers. C4 and Stack's Bowers co-sponsored a "Colonial" auction session on Friday evening. The session contained over 150 lots of colonial coins and related material (see following article).

According to C4 President James Rosen approximately 71 Club members attended the convention, and the Club signed six new members. The area near the C4 table included member dealers specializing in colonial related material. Exhibits at the convention were highlighted by a display of all 40 varieties of Vermont Coppers, purportedly the first time such a complete collection has been publicly exhibited.

On Thursday evening the Club held a donated lots auction after the annual dinner social. Presentations were then made by Mike Shutty on "An overview of Spanish Colonial Coins that Circulated in Pre-Federal America," and "An Overview of Cobbs." Kent Ponterio then spoke on "Pillar and Portrait Spanish Colonial Coins."

The educational aspect of the Convention continued on Friday with a discussion of "Colonial Currency" by Ray Williams. Erik Goldstein then spoke about "Numismatics of Dutch New York." Finally, on Saturday Will Nipper presented a "Whirlwind Tour of Coins and Tokens used in Early America."

For the first time the Club offered a grading and attribution program. It was limited to Connecticut coppers, Vermont coppers, Fugio coppers and New Jersey coppers. The grading and attribution was led by Craig McDonald, Jim Rosen, Dick August and Jack Howes, respectively.

On Saturday morning officers and board members gathered for the Board meeting/breakfast at the Sheraton Hotel. This was followed by the annual membership meeting chaired by President Rosen.

AT THE C4 CONVENTION

Five C4 Authors: (l-r) Mike Demling ["NJ Coppers" and "MA Coppers"]; Chris McDowell ["Abel Buell"]; Will Nipper ["In Yankee Doodle's Pocket"]; Tony Carlotto ["The Copper Coins of Vermont"]; and Syd Martin [w/ his latest "French Coinage Specifically for Colonial Aerica"]

An Historical First: The first time a complete set of Vermont varieties has ever been displayed at the same time – compliments of your C4 Officers.

C4 AUCTION REPORT

(Richard August)

We shouldn't always expect such abundance as Stack's Bowers gave our club members during their November 2015 auction held at Baltimore. I am very partial to colonial (Betts) medals, and the John W. Adams collection gave our members the chance to obtain many rare and marvelous examples. A collection of medals like this one is far, far rarer than any choice collection of colonial coins or paper money. It takes a lifetime to put together, and a lifetime of gaining knowledge to assemble. There was abundance of great medals. Thank you John. Here goes!

- Lot 22479, Betts 20, Capture of St. Thomas (1599) was a rare and choice early Dutch medal. It brought a very reasonable price of $1,410.

- Lot 22480, Betts 21, Capture of the St. Jago 1602 was another rare and artistic masterpiece bringing $3,055.

- Lot 22481, Betts 615 was a very affordable *Libertas Americana* medal in copper. It brought $5,640.

There were several Betts medals offered that were not original strikings, but they brought appropriate prices,which were far less than it would cost to get them in their original strikings.

- Lot 22496, Baker 171 Washington Seasons Medal "the Sower" brought a well-deserved $22,325. I wish I could have afforded it, but my $1 Powerball ticket wasn't a winner.

- Lot 23001, Betts 516 was a lovely William Pitt Medal (1766) in silver. I thought this was a bargain at $950.

- Lot 23006, Betts 525 was an attractive Rev. George Whitefield medal in silver. It brought $900. Silver Betts medals are generally quite rare.

- Lot 23012, Betts 531 was a William Penn medal in silver (1775) that brought only $1,500. Over 30 years ago, I paid $2,000 for my example of this medal to Dr. Paul Patterson.

- Lot 23015, Betts 544 was an extremely rare Washington Voltaire medal in silver that brought $12,925. This is truly a monumental medal.

- Lot 23018, Betts 545 (ca. 1762) was a very rare Benjamin Franklin L.L.D. medal that brought $3,818.

- Lot 23019, Betts 546 was the very rare Franklin American Beaver medal in silver.

A noted colonial dealer snatched this up for $11,750.

- Lot 23020, Betts 546 in copper, brought $1,410 -- still a nice buy, and a nice example in bronze.

- Lot 23021, Betts 549 Washington/Franklin American Beaver in bronze brought $3,325. Again this is a quite affordable medal in bronze compared to silver.

- Lot 23024, Betts 552 1772 Resolution and Adventure medal distributed (and probably touched) by Captain Cook before he was killed. It brought $3,818 by a very bright young man who went to the same undergraduate college as me. Too bad they didn't give out majors then in Colonial Medals, Coins and Currency. I would have enjoyed college a lot more and found it much easier than organic chemistry.

- Lot 23027, Betts 556 was a 1777 Battle of Germantown Medal in silver. This great rarity brought $22,325 to a very astute gentleman. Considering that this medal is much rarer than an NE shilling that could bring over $200,000, you can get an idea of how much of a good buy this was.

- Lot 23027, Betts 556 in copper brought $11,750. Another good buy and not to be sneezed at just because it was struck in copper.

- Lot 23040, Betts 571 Catherine the Great/Armed Neutrality medal in silver. Yet another very rare Betts silver medal brought $4,993.

- Lot 23057, an unlisted Betts Admiral Rodney medal in gold brought $10,575. What a beautiful piece of art and history.

- Lot 23058, was a brass Admiral Rodney button. This button is probably as rare as the rarest Betts medals in this auction and it brought only $440. A wise purchase.

- Lot 23061, Betts 584 was a 1781 British Resentment medal. It is again a very rare medal that brought only $5,287.

- Lot 23081, Betts 608 1783 Peace of Versailles *Libertas Americana* medal in silver brought an astounding $30,550. This medal is of utmost historical significance and rarity in silver. I'm happy it brought financial respect, especially because I also own this medal in silver.

- Lot 23082, also Betts 608 but in white metal with copper scavenger. This is the more common form of the medal. It still brought a respectful $2,350.

- Lot 23084, Betts 610 1783 Treaty of Paris medal in silver is a very rare medal that brought a modest $3,290.

- Lot 23087, Betts 612 1783 Treaty of Paris medal in silver brought $5,875, yet

another important medal.

- Lot 23089, Betts 614 1783 Felicitas Britannia et America medal in white medal in XF to Au condition brought only $17,625. Surely this medal ought to be worth at least $30,000.

- Lot 23091, Betts 618 1783 Franklin jeton of the Lodge of Nine Sisters brought $8,225. A very rare item.

- Lot 23105, 1787 Columbia and Washington medal in bronze in nearly mint condition brought $32,900. This is truly a rarity, and in great condition.

After all these great medals it was hard to come down to earth for colonial coins. There were some very attractive coins. Many of the Massachusetts silvers went for very attractive prices, and had they been in a name sale, would have brought more:

- Lot 23107, Oak Tree shilling Noe 8 in XF brought $11,000 plus the juice. Quite a nice and rare example.

- Lot 23109, Oak Tree twopence Noe 30 in AU brought a very safe $5,500 plus the juice.

- Lot 23111, Pine Tree shilling Noe 6 in AU brought $7,000 plus the juice. A bargain.

- Lot 23112, Pine Tree shilling Noe 23, an R6 coin, brought only $2,200 plus the juice. Another bargain.

- Lot 23119, a pre-patent Rosa Americana Penny in XF, an R7 coin, brought $4,250 plus the juice. Yet another bargain.

There were some very attractive type Rosa Americans, Hibernias, Virginia half pennies, Voce Populi and French Colonials. And there were a few rarities and bargains:

- Lot 23128, 1722 Pattern Hibernia Rock Halfpenny in XF brought $11,500 plus the juice. A nice delicacy.

- Lot 23135, 1719-A Sol of John Law in flawed Unc brought a very cheap price of only $375 plus the juice. This should be a redbook type.

There were no rare varieties of Massachusetts coppers, but there were many nice types:

- Lot 23152, a nice AU 1787 Mass cent brought $1,300 plus the juice.

- Lot 23153 a nice AU 1788 Mass cent brought $1,300 plus the juice.

- Lot 23155 a nice AU 1788 Mass cent brought $1,100 plus the juice.

All nice coins and a good investment in my opinion.

In Connecticut coppers there were some interesting lots. Here are a few of them:

- Lot 23164, a 1787 Connecticut Large Letters in VF-XF brought $650 plus the juice. A nice type.

- Lot 23166, a 1787 Connecticut 22-g.2, an R6 and an off-strike brought $1,300 plus the juice. A nice rarity and condition coin.

- Lot 23172, a nice 1787 Connecticut 33.9-s.2 type in AU brought $750 plus the juice.

In New Jerseys there were some great types but no rarities:

•Lot 23189, a nice 1786 New Jersey 14-J brought $1,586.

•Lot 23192, a nice NJ 34-J Deerhead in XF brought $3,525.

•Lot 23196, a common but choice NJ 1787 46-e in UNC brought $5,287.

•Lot 23197, a nice Serpent Head NJ 1787 54-k in XF brought $705.

Many of the Vermonts, although not rarities, nor choice, were still very pleasant types, very afforable, and very good buys. For example:

•Lot 23205, a very tough type Vermontis in F-VF for only $646. The buyer did very well on this coin.

•Lot 23206 a very nice type Vermontensium in F-VF for only $822.

•Lot 23214, a 1788 Vermont RR24 in VF brought $1,233. This is an underrated die variety.

•Lot 23215, a 1788 Vermont RR25 in XF brought only $763. What a bargain.

So there was a little bit of everything for everybody in this sale. More people in the club should take advantage of the opportunity to buy coins and medals at these C4 auctions. There were many bargains and many rarities in both the medal and the coin departments. Thank you Stack's Bowers and consigners for another great sale.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Heads up! The dates for our convention this year are 3-6 November 2016. Block it our now in your calendars!

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RESEARCH ASSISTANCE SOUGHT

I'm currently undertaking a comprehensive study of the Castorland jeton. I'm approaching the study from both sides of the Atlantic, relying heavily on French sources, and my study entails operational details from the manufacture of flans to the mechanical workings of the screw press; the history of jetons as they evolved from arithmetical counters to monarchial presentation pieces; events leading up to the establishment of the New York Company; the biography of Benjamin Duvivier; etc. culminating in detailed descriptions of variants struck from at least one original die. As you can see it's a big work, but I've been at it quite a few years and am wonderfully engaged in the project. Here is a "finding list" of details I'm looking for, as well as photos if possible:

1. If the specimen is in a slab, all the label information.
2. Identify the metal, gold, silver, copper, bronze. If silver, indicate thin or thick planchet.
3. If edge-stamped, identify the symbol and the lettering and location of the stamping (such as 6 o'clock relative the obverse.)
4. Die alignment: coin turn/medal turn.
5. Describe state of any reverse die failure, perceptible bulge, advanced crack, etc.
6. Describe reverse caustic incursion, sometimes identified as rust, at the right handle of the vessel.
7. Describe any other identifying factors such a rim bumps, scratches, spots, unfilled letters of legends, etc. that would help identify the piece if it were re-encapsulated at some future time.
8. Indicate the provenance, if known. If you currently own the specimen feel free to identify it ex your name for the benefit of future owners.

Please contact Chester L. Sullivan at csull@ku.edu

COMPLETE C4 NEWSLETTER CDs FOR SALE

C4 is making available on CD of a complete set of *C4 Newsletters* from 1993 (vol.1, no.1) through 2011 (vol.19, no. 4). The format is a fully searchable PDF files, which makes life and research much easier. Thanks to Randy Clark, Ray Williams and Gary Trudgen for their vision and extremely hard work, which now lets us offer these wonderful research tools to you for $50 plus $4.00 p&h for members or $75 plus $4.00 p&h for non-members. To order, please contact either (a) Wayne Shelby at dughistory@juno.com or at P.O. Box 568 Rancocas, NJ 08073 or (b) Charlie Rohrer at RohrerC@cadmus.com or at P.O. Box 25 Mountville, PA 17554. Please send your check made out to C4 to Charlie Rohrer at the above address.

I need help in a project that will turn into a *C4 Newsletter* article on estimating the surviving population of State Coinages. I am developing a model but need to better understand how many NJ coppers collectors hold. Only aggregated data will be used. I am looking for information on total number of NJ coppers, number recovered (dug), number purchased, and number sold in last 12 months or longer periods if available. I am looking for data from any size collections or accumulations.
J. Howes; 19967 East Doyle; Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236; 313 319-1743

Obtaining Back Copies of C4 Newsletter and C4 Auction Catalogues

Wayne Shelby has agreed to store the back copies of the *C4 Newsletter*. People wishing to purchase back issues that are still available should send their money to our treasurer, Charlie Rohrer, whose contact data are at page 2. Upon receipt of the money, he will contact Wayne, who will mail out the material. Back copies of the *Newsletter* are $10 for the first and $8 for all after that placed at the same time. If you have questions of what material is available, you can contact Wayne at:

P.O. Box 568
Rancocas, NJ 08073-956

dughistory@juno.com
609-261-6662 (Home)

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C4 Offers Important Colonial Books

For more information on the following books, published by the Colonial Coin Collectors Club (C4), visit the C4 website at www.colonialcoins.org. These books may be ordered directly from: Charles Davis' website: www.numisbook.com.

(1) Carlotto, Tony, The Copper Coins of Vermont and Those Bearing the Vermont Name, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 1998. Price: $165.

(2) Jordan, Lou. *John Hull, The Mint, and The Economics of Massachusetts Coinage,* Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2002. Price: $10.

(3) Martin, Sydney. *The Hibernia Coinage of William Wood (1722-1724),* Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2007. Price: $85.

(4) Martin, Sydney. *The Rosa Americana Coinage of William Wood*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2012. Price $85.

(5) Siboni, Roger S., Howes, Jack L. and Ish, A. Buell, *New Jersey State Coppers. History. Description. Collecting.*, The American Numismatic Society and Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2013. Price: $195.

(6) Vlack, Robert. *An Illustrated Catalogue of the French Billon Coinage in the Americas*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2004. Price: $50.

(7) *New Jersey State Coppers -- History * Description * Collecting*, authored by Roger Siboni, Jack Howes, and Buell Ish and co-published by ANS and C4.

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The Daniel Frank Sedwick database of fake cobs is now on ForgeryNetwork :

http://www.forgerynetwork.com/default.aspx?keyword=cob ..

http://www.forgerynetwork.com/asset.aspx?id=QEjfzd5ZR~x~8=

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C4 Membership Dues

Annual dues are currently $30.00 for Regular Membership ($40 if residing outside the United States) and $10.00 for Junior Membership (under 18 years of age; $15 is non US resident). They are payable on a calendar year basis... due January 1. The year through which you are paid appears after your name on the mailing address label on the *C4 Newsletter* envelope. Life Memberships can be purchased for 25 times the annual membership cost, or $750.00. You may mail checks (made out to "C4") to:

Charlie Rohrer, C4 Treasurer
PO Box 25
Mountville, PA 17554

Thank you for paying in a timely manner... It makes his job easier and will be much appreciated!

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NEW RESOURCE FOR THE C4 NEWSLETTER

Our C4 Newsletter now has an index available on our website at www.colonialcoins.org. There are actually two indexes: one by author and a second by topic/title. This is a beginning and the index will improve over time. We have intentions of updating the index within a week or two of every issue being shipped. We ask past authors and contributors to the C4N to please review their work in the index and forward any corrections/additions/suggestions to Ray Williams at njraywms@optonline.net or give a call.

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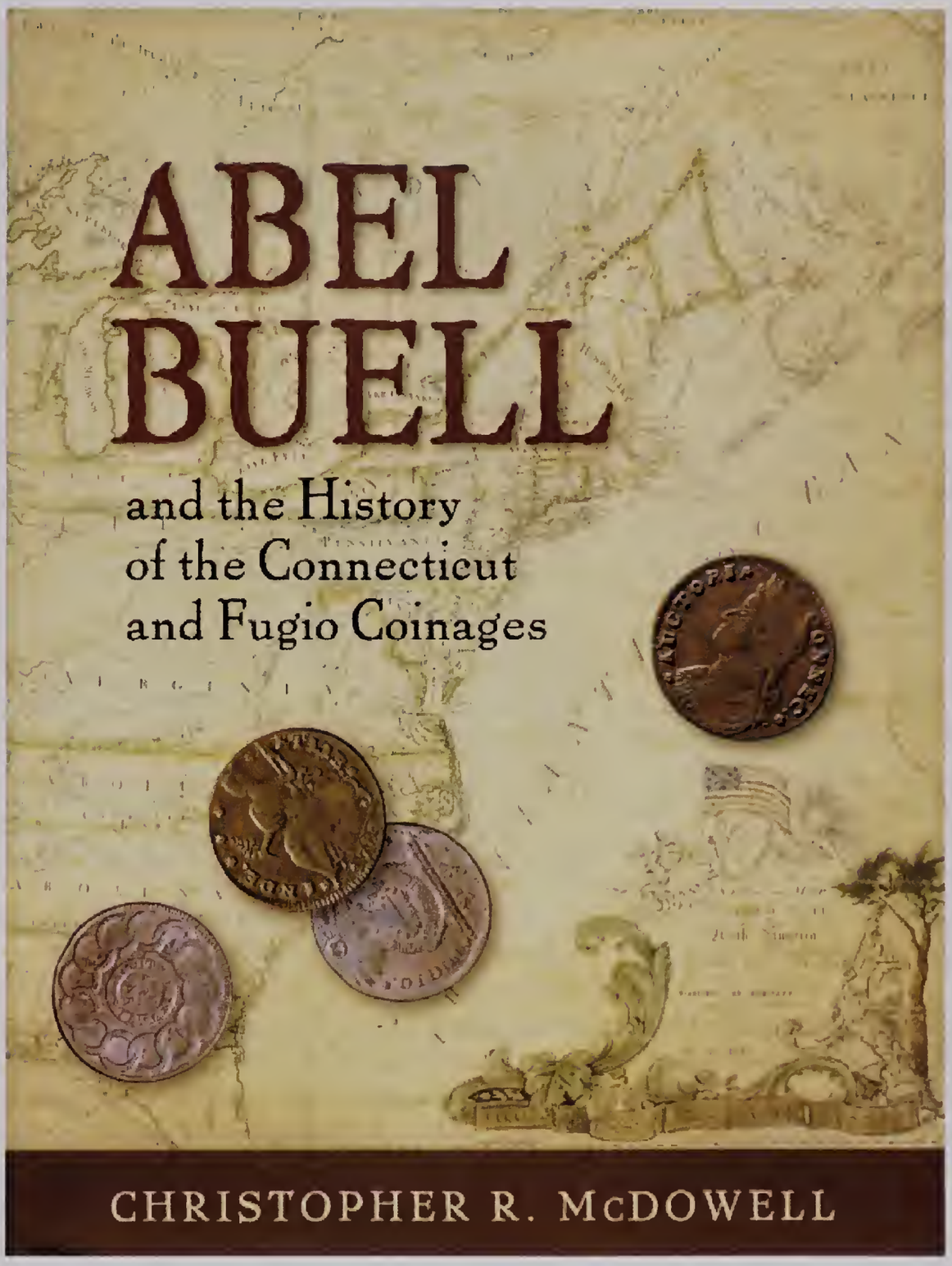
PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

In accordance with our by-laws, those who have recently joined C4 as provisional members are listed below. If any current C4 member in good standing has a reason any of the following should be denied membership in C4, please contact either your Regional VP or the President of the Club, Jim Rosen. The new provisional members, with their home states, are :

Higleyville Coins - CT	Sterling Rare Coin Corp - MA
Mason Isaac - NC	David Stewart - NJ
Scott Loos - WA	Mark Vitunic - MA
Doris McLaughlin - VA	Josh Ward - PA
Peter Mosiondz - NJ	

Support the C4 Club education initiatives buy this book:



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NEW BOOK: FRENCH COINAGE SPECIFICALLY FOR COLONIAL AMERICA

The Colonial Coin Collectors Club, C4, released Sydney F. Martin's latest book, *French Coinage Specifically For Colonial America*. This is the third colonial coin book published by C4 written by Syd Martin. Other works include *The Rosa Americana Coinage of William Wood* and *The Hibernia Coinage of William Wood*. The Rosa and Hibernia books are now considered standard references for those coinages and Syd's long awaited new book is expected to become the leading reference works on French Coinage minted for circulation in North America.

According to Lou Jordan, the curator of numismatic collections for the University of Notre Dame, "Sid Martin has written the definitive catalog of French coinage authorized specifically for use in North America." Jordan went on to state that "this is an essential book for anyone interested in the French coinage of colonial North America."

"What many early American coin collectors fail to recognize," Martin said upon the book's release, "is that from the 16th century until 1763, New France included much of what is now the United States, as well as most of Canada. As such, coins minted by France for circulation in its North American colonies should be considered 'coins of the realm' in these areas." Colonial numismatic expert, John Kraljevich, went on to explain that "the history of the French in what is today the United States is largely forgotten. However, the memory of these people and their coinage has been long cherished in Canada."

Jim Rosen, president of C4, predicts that "Martin's new book will awaken an interest in both the history of the French speaking people in North American and the coins they used such as the Gloriam Regni coins of 1670, the 6 and 12-denier copper coins minted in 1717, and the copper 9-denier coins from 1721 and 22, all of which were struck in France specifically for circulation in the Americas."

In the book's introduction, John Kraljevich writes that, "With Crosby-like flair, Syd has marshaled together the original documents that tell the stories of these coinages. Most have never been published at all, let alone in English or all in one place. This original research guarantees this work's importance to researchers in every forthcoming generation. The heart of this book, the die studies, offers several pathways for collectors to navigate these series, by basic type, by major variety, by die combination, or even by die state. It's a project that no one has ever even attempted before, an outlier in the world of colonial numismatics, a field that has seen multiple die studies of most of the popular series. Given Syd's well-organized approach and the thousands of coins he's studied, it may be generations before this work is supplanted. It's doubtful anyone will ever do it any better."

The 480 page book is hardbound, well-illustrated throughout with photographs of the different coin varieties examined, with dust jacket depicting French Coinage. The book is available for $85.00 plus $7.00 shipping from bookseller Charles Davis, (http://www.numisbook.com/), Box 1, Wenham, MA 01984, or telephone 978.468-2933

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C4 LIBRARY NEWS

(Leo Shane)

Below are new items acquired by the club since the last C4 Library Update. They are now available for loan by all C4 and EAC members in good standing. A complete list of library holdings and instructions on how to borrow them is available at the C4 website www.colonialcoins.org. Thanks to all who have donated items.

"Thank You" to those who have checked their old copies of auction catalogs and donated them to the library. There's still room for more. The Library is interested in getting copies of past auction catalogs that we currently do not have. Take a look at the list shown on the club website. Any that are not already in the library are greatly appreciated. Remember, all catalogs that have at least one Colonial will have the colonial section separated and added to the library archive. Catalogs with major colonial content will be retained in their entirety.

Books, Manuscripts & Auction Catalogs:

Stacks, *The Winter Collection United States Colonial Federal Coinage Territorial and Pattern Issues – Selections from the Richard Picker David Sonderman and Ruder Family Collections*, 14-15 January 1992, New York, NY – Donated by Christopher Faulkner.

Coin Galleries, *Ancient and Modern Coins of the World and the United States Paper Money Medals and Decorations*, 10 November 1992, New York, NY – Donated by Christopher Faulkner.

Stacks, *United States Coins and Paper Money featuring selections from the collections of Dr Alfred R Globus C Richard Mihalyi Gregory J Gallagher*, 9-10 September 1998, New York, NY – Donated by Christopher Faulkner.

Stacks, *Americana Colonial and Federal Coins Medals and Currency – featuring Selections from the Hain Family Collection Part II*, 15-17 January 2002, New York, NY – Donated by Christopher Faulkner.

American Auction Association, *The Matt Rothert Collection*, 16-17 November 1973, Hollywood, CA – Donated by Tom Gesner.

Superior Stamp and Coin Co, *The Dr Charles L Ruby Collection Part I*, 11-13 February 1974, Los Angeles, CA – Donated by Tom Gesner.

New Netherlands Coin Co, *66th Unrestricted Public Auction*, 21-22 July 1976, New York, NY – Donated by Tom Gesner.

Mid America Rare Coin Auctions, *The Capitol City Sale*, 15-16 February 1985, New Carrollton, MD – Donated by Tom Gesner.

Bowers and Ruddy Galleries, *Rare Coin Review No 19*, Los Angeles, CA, January - February 1974 – Donated by Tom Gesner.

Bowers and Ruddy Galleries, *Rare Coin Review No 20*, Los Angeles, CA, May – June 1974 – Donated by Tom Gesner.

Bowers and Ruddy Galleries, *Rare Coin Review No 21*, Los Angeles, CA, September - October 1974 – Donated by Tom Gesner.

Bowers and Ruddy Galleries, *Rare Coin Review No 24*, Los Angeles, CA, Autumn 1975 – Donated by Tom Gesner.

Bowers and Merena, *The Collections of Admiral Oscar H Dodson and Dr Richard L Collier*, 19-21 June 1984, New York, NY – Donated by Phil Kalanta.

Bowers and Merena, *The Princeton Collection and The Charles W Ingle Collection*, 8-9 September 1986, New York, NY – Donated by Phil Kalanta.

Stacks, *United States Coins featuring the Dr. James W. Vander Zanden Collection and Coins sold on behalf of Yale University*, 14-15 June 1995, New York, NY – Donated by Phil Kalanta.

Daniel Frank Sedwick, *Treasure and World & US Coin Auction 18*, 29 October 2015, Orlando, FL – Donated by Daniel Sedwick.

Mossman, Philip L, *From Crime To Punishment*, The American Numismatic Society, New York, NY, 2013 – Purchased by C4.

Martin, Sydney F, *The Hibernia Coinage of William Wood*, The Colonial Coin Collectors Club, Sheridan Books, Ann Arbor, MI, 2007 – Owned by C4.

Stacks Bowers, *The November 2015 Baltimore Auction – US Currency*, 5 & 9 November 2015, Baltimore, MD – Donated by Stacks Bowers.

Stacks Bowers, *The November 2015 Baltimore Auction – US Coins*, 5-6 & 9-10 November, Baltimore, MD – Donated by Stacks Bowers.

Suggestions for additions to the library are always appreciated. Please consider donating books, auction catalogs, etc. to the library. Remember, those who are learning about colonials now are those who will be buying your coins later. Thank You, my E Mail is Leo_J_Shane@hotmail.com

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CLASSIFIED ADS

Due to increased publications and mailing costs, the charge for half and full-page ads will increase for Volume 24. The new rates are shown below. These rates are still below comparable newsletters.

Grayscale ads for this newsletter can be purchased as follows (color ads are 50% more in each category):

	1 issue	2 issues	3 issues	4 issues	Copy Size
1 page	$300	$450	$600	$750	6" x 9"
1/2 page	$175	$250	$325	$400	6" x 4.5"

Covers cost somewhat more (please inquire – generally $175 additional). If you want to include a photo with your ad there will be an additional $10 charge. A black and white photo will be needed, but the size can be adjusted. Please send check with your ad. We accept camera-ready copy or any Microsoft Word compatible computer file.

All members also have the right to include a free classified ad in the newsletter of up to 10 lines of text.

NOTICE: The Colonial Coin Collectors Club does not review the ads provided for accuracy, nor does it assess any items offered for sale relative to authenticity, correct descriptions, or the like. C4 is not to be considered a party to any transactions occurring between members based on such ads, and will in no way be responsible to either the buyer or seller.

✧✧✧

"Colonial, cut, countermarked and Caribbean coins (and some other odds and ends as well). I am starting to sell a few pieces and have put up a website to that end. Please take a look at eastrockcoins.com. Peter Griffin."

✧✧✧

Clement V. Schettino, PO Box 1093, Saugus, MA 01906
copperclem@comcast.net copperclem.com

✧✧✧

MASSACHUSETTS COPPERS

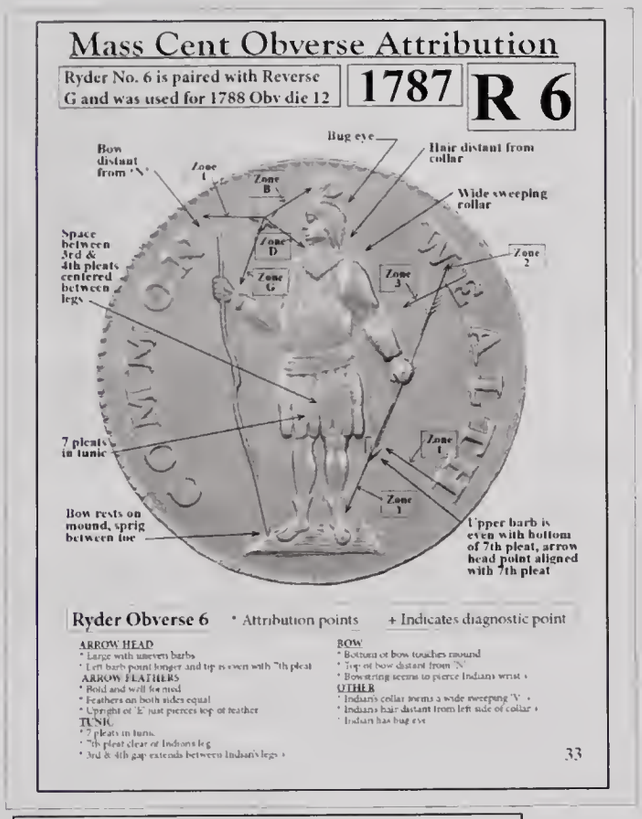
A Comprehensive Analysis and Attribution Guide of Massachusetts Colonial Coppers

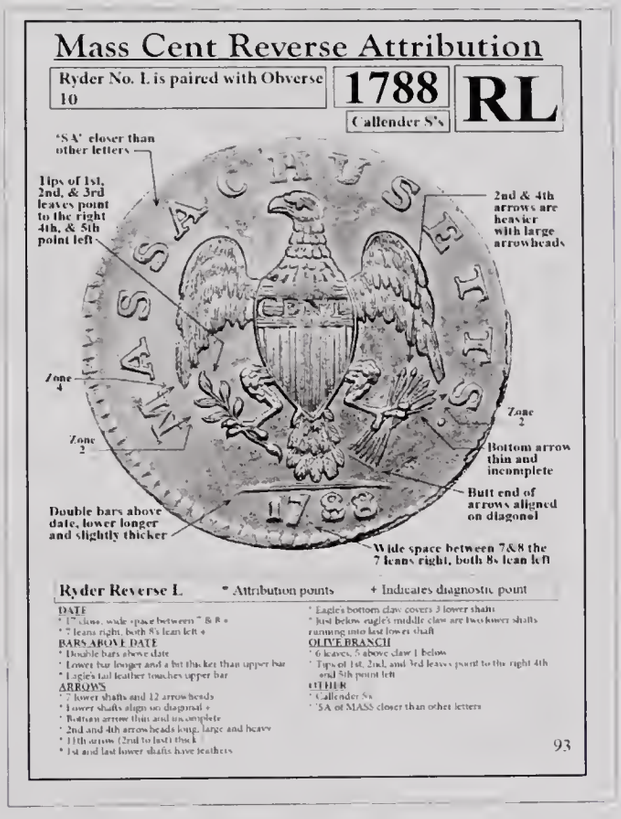
By Michael Demling

A NEW EXCITING ATTRIBUTION GUIDE IS AVAILABLE

Not since Robert Vlack, in 1978, created die charts for the Massachusetts cents and half cents has there been a Comprehensive Analysis and Attribution guide for Massachusetts coppers. This guide is packed with pictures and methods to easily attribute the Mass coppers. Both Cents and Half Cents are shown in great detail with die combination charts.

A MUST BUT FOR THE COLONIAL SPECIALIST!


Mass Cent Obverse Attribution
Ryder No. 6 is paired with Reverse G and was used for 1788 Obv die 12
1787
R 6
Bow distant from "N"
Bug eye
Hair distant from collar
Wide sweeping collar
Space between 3rd & 4th pleats centered between legs
7 pleats in tunic
Bow rests on mound, sprig between toe
Upper barb is even with bottom of 7th pleat, arrow head point aligned with 7th pleat
Ryder Obverse 6 * Attribution points + Indicates diagnostic point
ARROW HEAD
* Large with uneven barbs
* Left barb point longer and tip is even with 7th pleat
ARROW FEATHERS
* Bold and well defined
* Feathers on both sides equal
* Upright of 'E' just pierces top of feather
TUNIC
* 7 pleats in tunic
* 7th pleat clear of Indians leg
* 3rd & 4th gap extends between Indian's legs +
BOW
* Bottom of bow touches mound
* Top of bow distant from 'N'
* Bowstring seems to pierce Indians wrist +
OTHER
* Indian's collar forms a wide sweeping 'V' +
* Indians hair distant from left side of collar +
* Indian has bug eye
33


Mass Cent Reverse Attribution
Ryder No. L is paired with Obverse 10
1788
Callender S's
RL
'SA' closer than other letters
Tips of 1st, 2nd, & 3rd leaves point to the right 4th, & 5th point left
2nd & 4th arrows are heavier with large arrowheads
Bottom arrow thin and incomplete
Butt end of arrows aligned on diagonal
Double bars above date, lower longer and slightly thicker
Wide space between 7&8 the 7 leans right, both 8s lean left
Ryder Reverse L * Attribution points + Indicates diagnostic point
DATE
* 17 close, wide space between 7 & 8 +
* 7 leans right, both 8's lean left +
BARS ABOVE DATE
* Double bars above date
* Lower bar longer and a bit thicker than upper bar
* Eagle's tail feather touches upper bar
ARROWS
* 7 lower shafts and 12 arrowheads
* Lower shafts align so diagonal +
* Bottom arrow thin and incomplete
* 2nd and 4th arrow heads long, large and heavy
* 11th arrow (2nd to last) thick +
* 1st and last lower shafts have feathers
* Eagle's bottom claw covers 3 lower shafts
* Just below eagle's middle claw are two lower shafts running into last fewer shaft
OLIVE BRANCH
* 6 leaves, 5 above claw 1 below
* Tips of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd leaves point to the right 4th and 5th point left
OTHER
* Callender Ss
* 'SA of MASS closer than other letters
93

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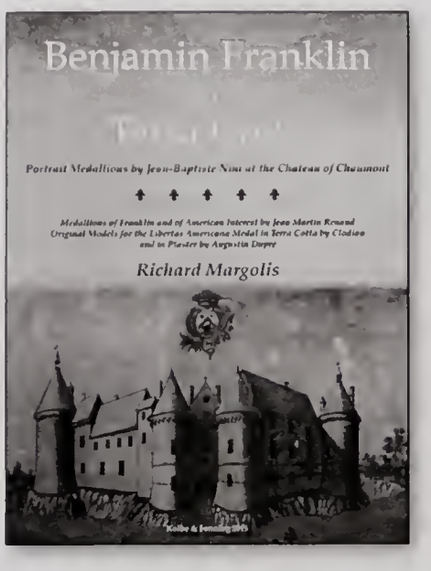

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN IN TERRA COTTA

Portrait Medallions by Jean-Baptiste Nini at the Chateau of Charmont

Benjamin Franklin in Terra Cotta discusses the numerous varieties of Nini medallions, methods of distinguishing originals from aftercasts, and the artistic context within which these pieces were created. Thoroughly documented and useful to both the novice as well as the expert, this handsome, large-format volume is finely illustrated throughout in full color. Available for $195 plus shipping.

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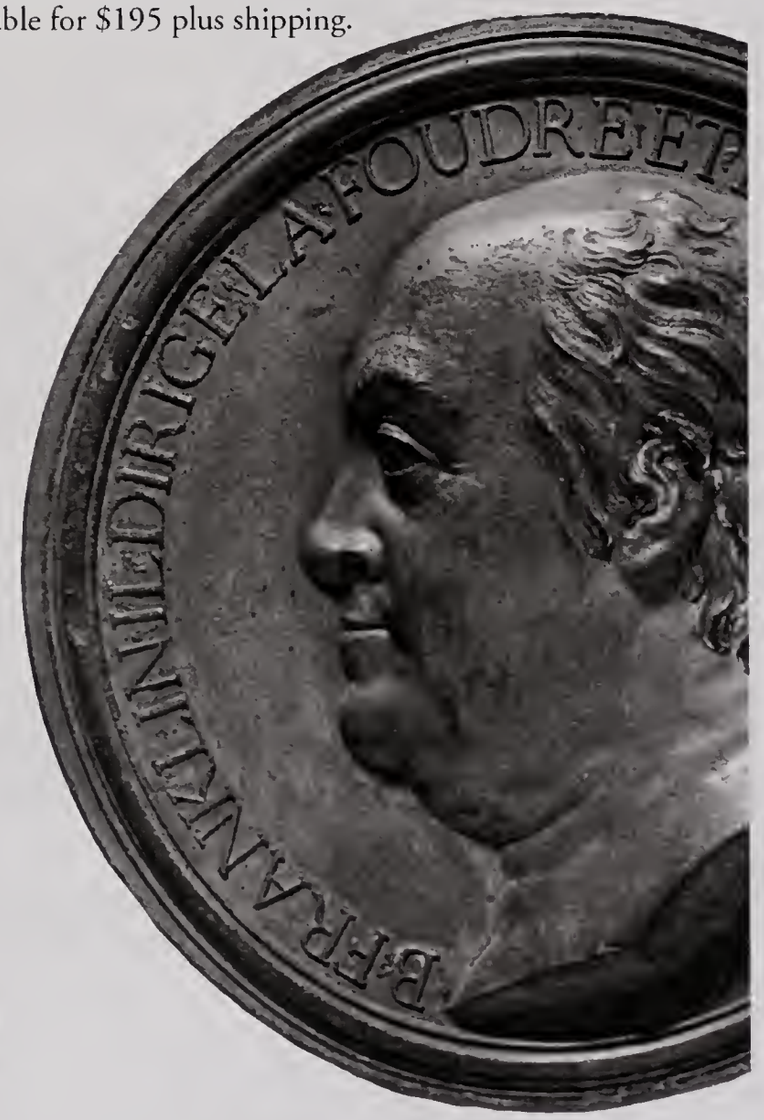
— Roy E. Goodman, Emeritus Curator of Printed Materials, The American Philosophical Society Library & Past President, The Friends of Benjamin Franklin



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